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## MAN HAD TAKEN CLASS-A DRUG Maesteg woman (80) died after a driver 'didn't see her' - COURT TOLD

A great-great grandmother of 80, who died after being hit by a motorist who was under the influence of a Class A drug, suffered "catastrophic injuries" - Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Alan Davies (35) of Maesteg Road, Maesteg, was jailed for four years.

He admitted causing the death of Tydfil Jenkins by careless driving while driving under the influence of drugs, driving while disqualified with no insurance and without a licence.

Report by AJ SICLUNA

The court heard Davies had a total of 32 convictions for 96 offences, including 55 for driving offences.

Prosecutor James Wilson said the incident occurred on Bethania Street, Maesteg on June 10, near a bus stop, at about 5pm.

At the time, Mrs Jenkins was crossing the road close to her home when she was hit by the Renault Clio driven by Davies.

A witness driving the other way slowed to 10mph and was aware of a woman with a walking stick.

A passenger in Davies's car said he believed his friend had only a provisional licence and that day had taken out insurance.

He said they were displaying 'L' plates and travelling up to 30mph. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

## Ford jobs crisis? - over 1,000 could go by 2021

A JOBS crisis is looming at Ford's Bridgend engine plant - unless the American parent company decides on further investment.

Talks were taking place as The GEM went to press, with unions and politicians all expressing concern. (FOR MORE DETAILS, SEE PAGE 12).

## TRAPPED KITTEN TOPPER IS RESCUED FROM STORM DORIS

*RIGHT:  
Wet and bedraggled,  
Topper is safely back down on the ground.  
(See another picture on page 3.)*



A terrified young kitten was saved from turbulent Storm Doris winds, after spending 24 hours marooned in a Maesteg tree.

Topper the kitten was stuck 50ft up the tree in the Metcalfe Street area of the town, and unable to get back down to safety as the storm blew.

RSPCA Cymru enlisted the support of the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, who cut down the tree and reunited Topper with his owner.

The rescue took place on Saturday (February 25).

Gemma Cooper, RSPCA inspector, said: "It's frankly amazing that Topper managed to stay in the tree securely for as long as he did, as the wind was really thrashing this brave kitten about."

"We're grateful for the support of South Wales Fire and Rescue Service in completing this rescue."

"It was another great example of how we often work together to help animals in the local community."

"Topper was very cold and wet, but thankfully, suffered no injuries at all."

"It was great to be

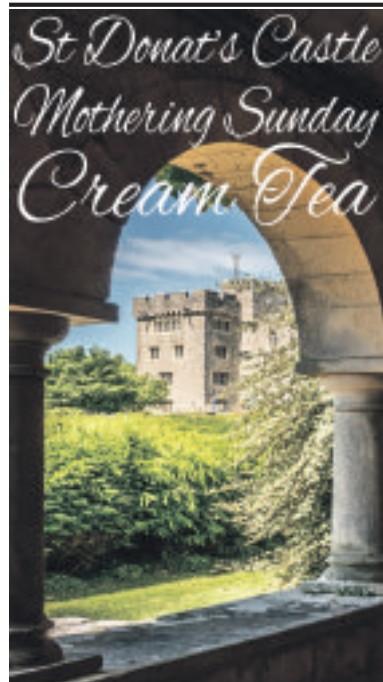
able to help reunite him with his owner."

Margaret Seymour, Topper's owner, said: "We're so grateful to the RSPCA, and the

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, who went out of their way to help Topper.

"They were absolutely fantastic."

"He's settled back in really well, is back with the mother cat, and is now more affectionate than ever!"



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# WHO WANTS TO BUILD WHAT, AND WHERE IN BRIDGEND?

Mr Steven Davies - 7 balcony. Greenacres, South Cornelly - Two storey side extension and widen existing driveway. Mr NG Thomas - Penybrynn, Bridgend Road, Bryncethin - Remodelling of dwelling to include: new roof shape, alterations and extension of existing bungalow and loft conversion, including dormers and detached garage/storage building with first floor and dormers. Mrs A Gooch - 29 Cae Ffynnon, Brackla - Loft conversion including dormer extension. Mr Kelyvn Edwards - 37 Maes y Wern, Pencoed - Single storey bedroom/wet room/utility room extension for registered disabled person. Mr Paul John - 2 Wimborne Road, Pencoed - Single storey rear extension. Mr Paul O'Brien - 96 Merlin Crescent, Bridgend - Front porch and block perimeter wall to front and side boundary. Mr Aaron Woodhall - 1 Danygraig Avenue, Danygraig, Porthcawl - Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and internal modification and refurbishment from two flats to single residential dwelling. Mr Luke Davies - 24 Aneurin Bevan Way, Maesteg - Single/double rear extension, with front porch, loft conversion and highway crossover. The Rest (Porthcawl) Ltd - The Rest Convalescent Home, Rest Bay, Porthcawl - Approval of details for conditions 15, 17, 18 and 19 of P/14/763/FUL. Mr Stephen Howell - Land adjacent to Stanwell House, Blackmill Road, Lewistown - Construction of a detached dwelling. Mr Gwynfor Cardy - Land to the north of Bethune, Coytraham - Program of works to nine trees including tree removal, crown reduction and removal of branches. Persimmon Homes West Wales - Parcel R14, Parc Derwen, Coity, Bridgend - Approval of details for conditions 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11 and 13 of P/16/257/RES. Mr Cliff Hopkins - 25 Bridgend Road, Newton, Porthcawl - Attic conversion and general refurbishment of existing property. Western Power Distribution - Merthyr Mawr House, Merthyr Mawr, Bridgend - Relocate pole mounted transformer from within walled garden (listed structure) to adjoining land. Lay a cable from the new transformer pole through the walled garden into a new cable entry point. Mr Mel Mathias - Parcau Isaf Farm, Laleston, Bridgend - Relaxation of conditions 4, 5 and 8 of P/14/63/FUL to enable the barn to be occupied while the new access is being constructed. Mr JD Lugg - 8 Pintail Close, Nottage, Porthcawl - Supported

balcony. Shayban Al-Ibrahim - Unit 2, Maesteg Road, Tondu - Discharge of conditions 8 and 9 of P/15/322/FUL.

Nemin - 4 Squire Drive, Brynmennyn Industrial Estate - Extension to existing industrial unit to create glazed entrance, new glazing and cladding to existing building, new internal mezzanine space.

Mr John Morse - 24 Deri Avenue, Pencoed, Bridgend - Works to protected oak tree.

Mrs Paula Jenkins - 33 Coity Road, Bridgend - Dropped kerb and move street light.

Mr M Dale - 1 - 2 Ton View, Kenfig Hill - 25 per cent crown reduction of all trees to the rear of houses 1 and 2.

Colin Anstee - 23 Heol Castell Coety, Litchard, Bridgend - Reduce ash hedge by 40 per cent.

Mr Ian Petrie - 1 Dros Olwg y Mynydd, Lewistown, Ogmore Vale - Fell an oak tree at the rear of the property.

Mrs Anne Davies - 68 St Michael's Way, Brackla - Tree next to property to be removed; partially uprooted tree over garage to be removed; crown reduction to overgrown mixed species and severely leaning oak over garage to be removed.

Mrs Andrea Burnard - The Barn, Duffryn Oaks Drive, Pencoed - Crown lift and remove overhanging limbs to oak tree.

Star Pubs & Bars Ltd - West House public house, West House Road, Cefn Glas - New single storey kitchen extension with pitched slate roof and new flat roof dining room extension.

Mrs Paula Hughes - Land at Tynewydd Farm, Bettws - Very condition 1 of P/09/474/OUT.

Mr Deryck Evans - 4 Phillips Avenue, Bridgend - Demolish existing substandard single storey extension and construct two storey extension to provide additional bedroom.

Mr Jason Paddick - Braichymmer Arms, Pleasant View, Pontypridd - Change public house into residential dwelling.

McDonalds Restaurants Ltd - McDonalds Restaurant, Pencoed Business Park, Pencoed, Bridgend - Non-material amendment to P/16/568/FUL.

Stephen Rock - Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club, Waun y Mer, Kenfig, Bridgend - Position and clad 30' x 10' 'portakabin' in field incorporating a disabled WC. Ian Walters - 91 Mountain View, North Cornelly - Two storey side extension (including extension of dormers), ground floor rear extension.

Nigel Jones - 6 Litchard Hill, Litchard, Bridgend - Single storey extension.

Ken Bevan - 9 Heol Adare, Ynysawdwr - Alteration and extension to dormer bungalow.

John Elward - 17/18 Ffridd Las, Broadlands, Bridgend - Crown reduce trees by 30 per cent.

Mr D R Hooper - 84 Long Acre, Nantyffyllon, Maesteg - Renewal of shop front.

Mr and Mrs Nigel Jenkins - 30 Maes Dewi Pritchard, Brackla - Extend existing kitchen/form breakfast room and alterations to existing porch roof. Green Acres Motel - 111 Heol Fach, North Cornelly - Proposed internal alterations to existing squash court to provide new beauty salon and addition bedroom accommodation.

Bridgend County Borough Council - Cae Gof Playing Fields, Cefn Road, Cefn Cribwr - Crown reduce by 30 per cent ash trees in bottom right corner of playing field to the rear of 19 Green Meadow.

Mr Simon Brides - 1 Glannant Row, Shwt, Bridgend - Certificate of Lawful Use (existing) for a two storey rear extension.

Mr Huw Jenkins - 3 Leckwith Court, Bryntirion Hill, Bridgend - Fell two decayed and dangerous horsechestnut (ref 7 and 8), remove dangerous overhanging limb from third horsechestnut (ref 9) and 30 per cent crown reduction to six beech trees.

Mr B Isaac - 48 Coyerch Road, Bridgend - Single storey extension and raised flat roof.

Mr and Mrs Andrew Self - 61 Briary Way, Brackla - First floor extension above existing garage, conversion of garage into habitable room.

Mr and Mrs Jones - Land adjacent to The Old Barn, Mawdlam - Erection of a single flat roof dining room extension.

Mrs Paula Hughes - Land at Tynewydd Farm, Bettws - Very condition 1 of P/09/474/OUT.

Mr Deryck Evans - 4 Phillips Avenue, Bridgend - Demolish existing substandard single storey extension and construct two storey extension to provide additional bedroom.

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# APPRENTICE HAS HEADSTART FOR A CAREER IN 'IT'



Lloyd Stevens (front) with fellow apprentice, Lance Davidson

## Support group for eyesight degeneration

A new support group is being launched to 'help increase the confidence and independence' of people affected by macular degeneration in Maesteg.

The Macular Society (together with local people) has organised the group, which meets on the second Monday of every month to offer information, encouragement and friendship to people who are affected by the condition.

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) affects the central vision and is the most common cause of sight loss in the UK, affecting more than 600,000 people. More people are affected as the population ages.

Adele Francis, the Macular Society regional manager, said: "This new group is here for anybody affected by macular degeneration, we want to encourage people to come along. Friends and family are also very welcome."

"It's good to be able to learn from each other's experiences and get tips. The peer support can be so helpful. Our groups can really help people increase in confidence and become more independent."

"The group will invite guest speakers on a variety of subjects, including macular conditions and their impact on our daily lives. The meetings are also social occasions where we can chat over a cup of tea."

The first meeting will include a 'Gadget Guide' session, where volunteers will demonstrate a range of aids and gadgets which can help make everyday tasks easier.

These include liquid level indicators, which monitor the amount of liquid going into a cup and either sound or vibrate when full.

Local rehabilitation and eye clinic liaison officers will also be on hand to highlight the additional support available.

The Macular Society is inviting anyone affected by the condition to join it for the group's first meeting. It takes place from 10am-12.30pm on Monday, March 13, at the Heritage Suite, Maesteg Health and Wellbeing Centre, Hartshorn House, Neath Road, Maesteg.

*For more information on the group or macular degeneration, call the Macular Society's helpline on 0300 3030 111 or email help@macularsociety.org*

A BRIDGEND teen has a headstart in pursuing his dream career in IT - after responding to a data company's call to get involved in its 'Apprenticeship Challenge', as part of National Apprenticeship Week 2017.

Lloyd Stevens (18), has put higher education study plans on hold and is pursuing a work-based role with Fields Data

Recovery as one of just two candidates selected to complete the first-ever apprenticeship scheme rolled out in the company's 15-year history.

Lloyd joined the Bridgend company,

"IT apprenticeship vacancies are still quite rare, so I feel really privileged to have been one of just two selected to complete the course."

Running from March 6-10, National Apprenticeship Week brings together employers and apprentices from across England and Wales to celebrate the positive impact apprenticeships and traineeships continue to have on individuals, businesses and the wider economy.

In Fields Data Recovery's case, this meant advertising an apprenticeship vacancy for the first time in its 15-year history - a decision which has so far proved to be very positive indeed.

Michael Earl, chief engineering manager, said: "We've always found recruitment difficult, simply because what we do serves a very niche market, so we thought we'd come at it from a different angle and train our employees from the ground up instead."

"Despite the specialist nature of our business we are constantly expanding and feel hugely fortunate to have found not one but two apprentices who have so far exhibited the flair, expertise and commitment required at what is a crucial time for the company, having just moved to larger premises last year."

**'Economics and truth'**

**N**OBODY in their right mind believes that civilisation could, or should, be built upon dishonest science or mendacious mathematics.

Truth must be the bedrock of any human society which can survive into the future. But economists who come out of our universities all know that in our global economic system, eight people possess as much of the planet's resources, as 50 per cent of the world's poorest inhabitants - 3.5 billion people.

No-one can pretend that this is an efficient system. However, these educated graduates are determined never to

mention the truth when they lecture us, lest the more intelligent citizens might begin to take a thoughtful and critical interest in the whole rotten and inefficient structure.

But it shows how unjustly market forces are employed to make the rest of us accomplices to, and victims of, a corrupt economic system.

Our form of distorted civilisation is based upon a dishonest economy, a dishonest media, and dishonest advertising. It is a wonder that we have any honest children growing up, after they have struggled through years of those ambushes of wilful lies. Why not insist on truth?

C N Westerman, Brynna.

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'Help! Can someone come and rescue me, please?'

## SUSTRANS AWARD FOR AFON Y FELIN

**AFON Y FELIN PRIMARY SCHOOL** in North Cornelly has joined a group of local schools to achieve the Silver School Mark award from Sustrans Cymru – the charity that encourages people to take more journeys by walking, cycling, scooting and public transport.

Sustrans Cymru schools officer Roger Dutton said: "Congratulations to Afon y Felin Primary School on achieving this award. The pupils and staff have worked really hard over the last couple of years, acquiring funding from the Kenfig Trust for bike and scooter storage and holding events, such as the Christmas bing, where they added festive decorations to their bikes."

"They are also one of the many local schools that take part in the annual Big Pedal challenge which invites pupils, parents and staff to clock up as many two wheel journeys as possible."

"Bridgend county borough schools participating in the Active Journeys programme over the last two years have seen an average 11 per cent drop in pupils usually coming by car, and a fourfold increase in pupils coming by bike or scooter."

Roger added: "The other local Active Journeys primary schools that have earned the Silver award so far are Brackla, Brymnenydd, Llangwynnyd, Cornelli, Coychurch, Garth and Nantymoel. Who will be first to get gold?"

Afon Y Felin headteacher Nicola Williams said: "We are very proud of our long-term commitment to cycling, scooting and walking to school. We're delighted that our efforts have been recognised by Sustrans Cymru, and I'd like to thank parents for their outstanding support. Over the last 18 months, the number of pupils arriving at school by car has fallen significantly."

Coun Charles Smith, BCBC cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "Improved

infrastructure around Cornelly thanks to 'safe routes in the community' funding has made cycling a safer and more realistic option for local families, while Afon Y Felin's new bike shed is also making a big impact."

"In all, this is a great example of how a combination of making routes to school safer, providing excellent covered bike storage, and promoting active travel can create a shift from a car culture."

"It's also fantastic to hear that the levels of cycling and 'scooting' are on the rise at so many other schools, as an active school run not only helps children to keep fit, but it also boosts their concentration levels, can improve their wellbeing, and is obviously good for the environment, too."

BCBC primary schools who wish to take part in the Active Journeys programme can apply at [www.sustrans.org.uk/wales/active-journeys](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/wales/active-journeys).

This year's Big Pedal challenge takes place from March 20 – 31; for further details, visit [www.bigpedal.org.uk](http://www.bigpedal.org.uk)

## University initiative 'helps to inspire Tondu pupils'



AS part of Cardiff University's 'winter school' initiative, pupils from Coleg Cymunedol Y Dderwen met with members of the National Assembly and academics to gain an insight into politics and the law-making process in Wales.

The visit, organised as part of a three-day 'winter school' residential programme for 14-15 years olds from schools across south Wales aimed to inspire those less likely to continue into higher education to consider going to university.

In addition to focusing on English, maths and science as part of the core curriculum, Cardiff University academics led taster sessions ranging from law, Portuguese, statistics and music to give students an idea of the 'diversity' that higher education has to offer.

At the Senedd, the pupils met Huw Irranca-Davies, AM for their school's Ogmore constituency, and heard about his work as an Assembly Member.

Mr Irranca-Davies said: "Cardiff University has a strong track record in helping students overcome barriers to higher education and works with many schools and colleges in disadvantaged areas across Wales. It is good to see they are also encouraging students to learn more about political life."

Professor Amanda Coffey of Cardiff University said: "For some young people, going to university can seem an unrealistic option – particularly if they don't know anyone else with experience of higher education. Many may not be aware of the opportunities on offer, or don't have the confidence to begin the application process."

"At Cardiff University, we are committed to supporting all of our students to achieve their full potential; winter school initiative plays an important part in helping young people take their first steps on a journey into higher education."

## Soroptimists raise funds for Parc Prison families



Karen Rees, Barnardo's children's services manager and Sarah Crawley, director of Barnardo's Cymru, were delighted to receive the sum of £1,200 from immediate past president Bethan on February 22 at the Heronston Hotel, Bridgend.

The family visitor centre is helping prisoners maintain contact with their children in congenial surroundings. More than 8,000 families are supported in Wales every year and 2,000 are using the facilities each month at Parc.

The service offers children's activities in the centre, there is also a swap shop, where pre-loved clothing, equipment and toys are on offer for families to take away.

Multi-faith and cultural events take place regularly and family theatre trips are organised. Funds provided by the Soroptimists launched a short story writing competition for the children; the winners will be announced in May.

The latest donation will be used to form a drama and musical facility in Parc Prison to help children and families deal with life when dad is absent.

For more information about Soroptimist International, see website [sigbi.org/bridgend-and-district](http://sigbi.org/bridgend-and-district); Facebook [www.facebook.com/BridgendSoroptimists](http://www.facebook.com/BridgendSoroptimists). EB

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# Porthcawl at War: MARCH 1917

MARCH 1917 witnessed the Great War change direction in quite a few ways internationally – following the ‘February Revolution’ in Russia – so-called because of the Russian calendar, which differed to the European one.

Tsar Nicholas II abdicated on March 15. The Duma, the Russian Parliament, ruled for six months before the Bolsheviks seized power on November 8. This whole chain of events eventually resulted in Russia negotiating peace with Germany through the signing of the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, March 3, 1918; and the assassination of the Russian royal family at Ekaterinburg on July 17, 1918.

Conversely, the USA were preparing to enter the war. On March 12 President Woodrow Wilson announced the arming of US merchant ships and on March 20 the US war cabinet voted unanimously in favour of declaring war on Germany. War was officially declared on April 6.

Nationally, greater attention was being drawn to ‘War in the Air.’ Major General Hugh Trenchard, who later became known as the father of the RAF, created the 100 Pioneer Night Bombing Squadron. It was raised out of Home Defence Wing Squadrons and was the first unit raised specifically for night bombing. Its aim was the bombing of German aerodromes and infrastructure.

Mobilised at Farnborough, it left for France on March 21, 1917 landing near Arras from where it carried out its first sortie on April 5 bombing Douai Aerodrome, where Baron Mannfred von Richthofen’s ‘Flying Circus’ was based.

In April 1918 the squadron became known as the 100 Squadron, Independent Force, which distinguished it from the newly-formed Royal Air Force. Transferring to Alsace-Lorraine, it carried out night raids on German towns and cities. These long-range sorties became possible due to the acquisition of new aircraft, the Handley Page Bomber.

From June 1918 to November 1918, 2nd Lieutenant Paul Wilkins, 41 Fenton Place, Porthcawl originally with the Royal Engineers was assigned to the 100 Squadron (Independent Force) whereupon he trained as an observer. Lt Wilkins took part in 23 raids.

Having already been awarded the Military Cross in October 1917 while serving with the Royal Engineers, Lieutenant Wilkins was recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross in September 1918, aged 22 years for ‘excellent work participating in 23 night bombing raids and has



*Lt Paul Wilkins.*

shown at all times a fine offensive spirit, devotion to duty and unfailing energy, and great keenness. Full of pluck and on several occasions has done two or three raids in a night. His skill as an observer is remarkable.'

Following his demobilisation in 1919, Lt Wilkins emigrated to India where he joined the Bombay Police Force in November 1923, eventually attaining the rank of Deputy Commissioner of Police. Paul Bergman Wilkins was to be decorated twice more. ‘For distinguished service in a difficult district,’ he was, personally, decorated with the King’s Police Medal by HM King George VI at Buckingham Palace on Thursday, February 26 1931, and the OBE in 1942. He died in Bournemouth in June 1970 aged 74.

On March 31 1917, Paul Wilkins’ uncle, 2nd Lieutenant Jasper Daniel (whose mother, Naomi, lived at 18 Fenton Place) transferred from the 23rd Welsh Battalion to which he had enlisted at Porthcawl early in 1916, to the Royal Flying Corps. He served with 84 Squadron, which was posted to France in September 1917.

During its 15 months of active service on the Western Front, the Squadron destroyed 129 enemy aircraft. It was disbanded on January 30, 1920. Lt Daniel survived the war but his elder brother Ralph, was killed at Passchendaele on July 31, 1917.

By 1929 their mother Naomi had moved to Pavilion Place, top of Gordon Road, to make way for the building of Tabernacle Chapel – which today has the address 18, Fenton Place.

Tragically, not all Porthcawl’s airmen survived. 2nd Lieutenant Lewis Charles Burford Sheppard was born on September 21, 1896 in Falmouth Cornwall, the only son of Henry and Gertrude Sheppard. In 1911, Henry is found working as an engineer at a Maesteg colliery and the family had moved into Newton House, Porthcawl.

In January 1915 aged 19 Lewis enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry, seeing active service from May until being invalided home to Porthcawl in August 1915. The following August he transferred to the Royal Flying Corps.

Lewis obtained his wings and pilot’s certificate on March 8, 1917 and was posted to France with 32 Squadron, on March 24, 1917. Within a month he was dead. Lewis was killed when his aircraft, an SE5, crashed on landing on the Bapaume Road, Fremicourt near Arras, on April 21, 1917 during what became known as ‘Bloody April’; so called because of the great losses suffered by the Royal Flying Corps at the hands of the technically superior German Luftstreitkräfte (Imperial German Air Force) while providing air support at the Battle of Arras.

On the day that Tsar Nicholas abdicated, at 3, Vintin Terrace Mrs Blodwen Turner received a postcard from her husband, Tom, stating that he was ‘alright.’ It was, also, the day, that Sapper Thomas Harford Turner, ‘Tom’ was killed.

Tom was a true Porthcawl man. He had been born, one of four children, to William and Priscilla Turner in 1890 at Pilot’s Row but the family had moved to Williams Place, (Marine Terrace) the other side of the Square, by 1901.

Following in his father’s trade as a stonemason, in 1909 Tom married Blodwen Huskings and they initially set up home at 3, Westbourne Place where their first child, Kenneth was born. On January 6, Tom enlisted in the 124th Royal Engineers with his ‘pals’ Brinley Llewellyn and Sydney James.

It was Syd who was with Tom when he died and wrote home to the Porthcawl News: ‘Dear Sir, It is with the greatest sorrow I am writing this letter to inform you that my pal, Tom Turner, was killed by a shell about 5.30pm. It would be a great kindness if you would break the news gently to his wife and parents.’ (Porthcawl News March 22, 1917.)

The Turner family certainly responded to the country’s call. Even Tom’s father, William, served with the Royal Defence Corps from October 17, 1914 to September 17, 1917; only being discharged



*Fenton Place.*



*2nd Lt Lewis Sheppard.*



*Jasper Gordon Daniel.*

because he was over age. The family’s link with the Porthcawl News developed as a result of Tom’s brother Jack Turner having worked for the paper. Throughout the war, until being wounded and consequently discharged from the RAMC early in 1917, Jack sent monthly reports home from the front.

Jack continued to write his column for the Porthcawl News and following his brother’s death wrote: ‘Years ago as young lads together we used to play at soldiers... we must not forget our soldier boys who have fallen. One cannot do too much for the lads who are serving in that awful Hades beyond the seas.’

*In 1919, Jack became the first secretary of the Porthcawl Branch of the Comrades of the Great War. In 1924, it became the Porthcawl Branch of the British Legion.*

**CERI JOSEPH,  
Porthcawl Museum**

**Pontycymer artist exhibits**  
REPRESENTATIVES best of our creative for Ogmore, Huw Wales,” they said. Irrance-Davies AM and Chris Elmore MP, are supporting ‘home grown’ Welsh artist Kevin Sinnott, who has a ‘History of Paintings’ exhibition at the Flowers Gallery in London until March 11.

They have informed colleagues at the Welsh Assembly, House of Commons and House of Lords about the exhibition and the work of the artist who is based in Garw Valley.

“Kevin is one of the leading lights in Wales’ contemporary art scene. He and his works serve as wonderful ambassadors of the very



*Tom and Blodwen Turner.*

## College honours

A SPECIALIST network of military preparation colleges, with centres in Bridgend, Cardiff, Newport, Swansea and Merthyr Tydfil, has been named Training Provider of the Year in one of the UK’s most prestigious awards for further education.

The Motivational Preparation College for Training (MPCT) group, which helps young people to build life skills, self-confidence, and physical fitness through an ‘active learning’ approach, scooped the top prize at the Times Education Supplement (TES) Further Education Awards 2017.

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# Lung patients 'on course for a better life' at North Cornelly

**PICTURED (left to right), specialist respiratory nurse Catherine Stracy, occupational therapist Tracey Eldred, rehabilitation technician, Claire Williams, Maria Christian and fitness instructor Lewis Pengilly; front row: Bob Watson, Alyn Clarke and Mick Brookes.**

LOCAL patients with breathing problems caused by lung disease have given the thumbs up to a specialised course at North Cornelly that is helping them to cope with their symptoms and improve their quality of life.

After attending the sessions organised by ABMU's pulmonary rehabilitation team, they say they are already seeing – and feeling – the benefit.

Bob Watson, of Portcawl, who is one of a group of patients with COPD attending the course at North Cornelly Community Centre, led by specialist respiratory nurse Catherine Stracy, said: "It's been the best thing I have ever done. My body is more supple and I can see it making a difference after just a few weeks."

COPD, or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, is a collection of lung diseases including chronic bronchitis and emphysema. Welsh Government funding has led to the setting up of the rehabilitation teams, and Bridgend's pulmonary rehabilitation team is based at Ward



16 of Princess of Wales Hospital.

Catherine Stracy explained: "We know patients who exercise more, eat healthily and understand their condition will be able to manage their condition better at home and reduce hospital admissions."

The pulmonary rehab team is headed by Nicola Perry-Gower and made up of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dietitians, nurses, exercise instructors and technicians in line with guidelines laid out by the British Thoracic Society. Patients are referred to the classes by their GPs.

Mick Brookes of North Cornelly said: "The help the team has given me is fantastic. I wasn't sure if it would be for me but it's made a difference and it has helped me get my sense of humour back again."

## Entrepreneur wins top Welsh Business Award

THE co-founder of a Pencoed-based video games company, who turned the business he started in his attic into a six-figure enterprise, won Young Entrepreneur of the Year at the Welsh Business Awards on February 23.

Richard Pring (29) who started games developer and publisher Wales Interactive in 2012 with David Banner, beat off tough competition to win the coveted award at the ceremony, which took place at the National Museum of Wales and was organised by the South and Mid Wales Chamber of Commerce.

Wales Interactive, now a team of 11 with an annual turnover of £400,000, not only develops its own English and Welsh language video games but also operates a games publishing label, working with talented independent developers worldwide to bring their unique creations to new platforms.

In just four years the company has released 20 games, won multiple awards worldwide and increased its turnover by at least 30 per cent annually.

"Winning this award is a great honour and an amazing way to top what has been a tremendous year for both myself and the business," said Pring.

"In just four years our small indie company, which we started in an attic, has become a prominent high-end, multi-console developer and publisher.

"Starting the studio in Wales was a challenge because there were no major games hubs within 100 miles. But the idea of creating an industry where there wasn't one,



Richard Pring from Wales Interactive.

of pioneering new and innovative technology, excited me.

"We pushed forward, educating and developing the sector here. Knowing we have made such an impact in the Welsh games industry has really pushed me to drive myself and the company forward."

The 2016 awards, celebrating its 15th anniversary this year and sponsored by the University of South Wales, saw 35 businesses from a variety of sectors nominated for awards across 10 categories. The event was hosted by TV presenter Gethin Jones for the second time.

"Given how challenging 2016 has been for many of our businesses, with continued uncertainty surrounding the impact of Brexit, it was inspiring to celebrate so much success tonight," said Heather Myers, director of the South and Mid Wales Chambers of Commerce.

"All 35 shortlisted businesses should be immensely proud of what they achieved in 2016, whether they left with a trophy or not. Their entrepreneurial spirit and never-say-die attitude have contributed to more prosperous Wales and one that remains a firm contender in the global market."

Swan Rees, director of USW Exchange at the University of South Wales, said: "The Welsh business community continues to work together to ensure Wales remains a thriving location to do business."

"I hope the Welsh business community continues to work together to ensure Wales remains a thriving location to do business."

"As a Government, we're proud of supporting our job market. I'm delighted to say that there are 117,000 more private sector jobs in Wales than there were in 2010. These jobs have been created by the private sector, by entrepreneurs who take risks and have the drive to build businesses."

"I hope the Welsh business community continues to work together to ensure Wales remains a thriving location to do business."

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## Business boost



Coun Barry Stephens (left) and Chris Elmore MP in Llanharry

CHRIS Elmore, Labour MP for Ogmore joined Coun Barry Stephens on a tour of small businesses in Llanharry recently.

The MP visited several small shops and high street services in Llanharry to discuss the local economy and the challenges facing business in the future as part of an ongoing commitment to support small and medium sized enterprises.

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## Emmaus South Wales welcomes delegation from Singapore



Visitors from Singapore at Nant Lais.

EMMAUS South Wales welcomed visitors professionals from their Ministry of Justice, prisons and Probation Services.

The visitors were in Bridgend as part of HMP Parc's Invisible Walls Wales Project and spent a week with HMP Parc and the community organisations linked with their resettlement process.

## Dream flying scholarship for Bridgend RAF man

A BRIDGEND man has become one of just 30 serving RAF regular and reserve Junior Ranks (JRs) to receive a flying scholarship, sponsored by the RAF Charitable Trust (RAFCFT).

Cpl Sam Ingall (24) applied for the RAF Flying Clubs' Association (RAFFCA) Junior Rank Pilot Scholarship Scheme (JRPSS), which will enable him to receive 15 hours of flying training, with the view to achieving a Light Aircraft Pilot's Licence (LAPL).

Cpl Sam Ingall, of the Royal Air Force Police stationed at RAF Akrotiri, applied for the scheme to pursue his ambition to fly. He said: "I have always dreamed about becoming a pilot and it is one of the biggest



"CONGRATULATIONS, SAM!"

reasons why I joined the RAF."

Sam's flying instruction will begin in April at a selected RAF flying club and once he has successfully completed the scholarship, there is also the opportunity to apply for the JRPSS top-up-scheme, which provides additional funding to continue flying training.

When he has completed the scheme, Sam hopes to carry on his training to achieve his full Private Pilot's Licence (PPL) and further his career within the RAF.

Justin Morton, RAFCFT director, said: "Firstly, I'd like to say congratulations to Cpl Sam Ingall and all those who were selected for this year's scholarship intake. They have a very exciting few months ahead of them and I wish them the best of luck."

"The Trust sponsors the JRPSS each year to provide more flying opportunities for young personnel who otherwise may not get the chance. The success of the scheme over the past two years shows the difference this funding can make to the lives of our JRs, as well as highlighting just how much appetite there is for youngsters to get involved in aviation."

In 2017, the RAFFCA and RAFCFT awarded 30 applicants places on the JRPSS. To be in with a chance of receiving the training, applicants had to prove that they had the right credentials for the scholarship, as well as demonstrate their thirst to improve their knowledge of aviation and to experience what it's like to get airborne.

RAFFCA project officer Flight Lieutenant Chris Hives said: "It's great to see so many young people with an

interest in aviation getting excited about the scheme, and this meant that the competition for this year's JRPSS was tougher than ever – we received a record total of 468 applications. All of this year's scholars should be extremely proud to have got through such a robust selection process.

"Since the JRPSS began we have already seen three scholars achieve their full PPL, with many more completing their final steps, and nine personnel have been accepted at OASC (Officers and Aircrrew Selection Centre) for commissioning and officer training.

"The scheme provides a fantastic opportunity for JRs, which this year has been enhanced even further with the support of Aeros Flying Training, an RAFFCA training partner, so we're really looking forward to seeing just what our new scholars can do."

The CEO of Aeros Flying Training, Mr Tom Dunn said: "We are delighted to be associated with the RAF and look forward to hosting the 30 lucky JRs at one of our training centres – our new DA 42 Diamond Star Simulator and large aircraft fleet offer a clear pathway for those JRs wishing to go beyond their PPL and become professional pilots."

The JRPSS was launched in 2015 to improve the air-mindedness of junior ranks. The scheme has already benefited 40 personnel, with the ambition of supporting 100 scholars through the scheme by 2018 – the RAF's centenary year. To find out more about the JRPSS, visit [www.jrfly.co.uk](http://www.jrfly.co.uk)

## Drop-in event to cut energy bills

B R I D G E N D residents will be able to get free advice to help reduce their energy bills at a drop-in event in March in partnership with Bridgend County Council.

The Welsh Government Warm Homes Nest scheme will be at the Bridgend Life Centre on Thursday, March 2. The team will be available from 10am to 1pm to help people who are struggling to heat their home this winter, providing free energy saving advice and support on how to stay warm and reduce energy bills.

"Since the scheme started in 2011, Nest has provided free advice to over 85,000 households across Wales with over 23,700 households benefiting from free home energy efficiency improvements."

In addition to advice, people who receive a means-tested benefit and live in a home that is hard to heat may also be eligible for free home energy efficiency improvements from Nest. These may include

a replacement boiler, central heating system or insulation.

Lee Parry, Head of Nest, said: "Visiting Bridgend Life Centre is a great opportunity for the Nest team to discuss the benefits of the scheme with the local community. Nest offers a wide range of free support to help people who are struggling to heat their homes and worry about their energy bills."

Nest can be contacted on Freephone 0808 808 2244 or visit [www.nestwales.org.uk](http://www.nestwales.org.uk) for advice on reducing energy bills and to find out if you qualify for a package of free home energy efficiency improvements."

RAFFCA project officer Flight Lieutenant Chris Hives said: "It's great to see so many young people with an

# Bridgend Youth Theatre performers bring Fiddler on the Roof to the Grand Pavilion

**WORDS by PHILIP IRWIN**

**Photos by MANDY THOMAS**

(Telephone 07541 982794)

www.mandythomasphotography.com

See page 27 for more photos.



ABOVE: Tevye and family on stage as buildings in the village are set on fire.

**Another year – another top notch show by the Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT) in the Grand Pavilion, Portcawl. This time, it was *Fiddler on the Roof*.**

However, with the BYT, it might just as well be Groundhog Day, because each year there are new faces on stage, but the quality remains the same.

BYT director Roger Burnell has put together a talented young production team, with assistant director Naomi Pearl Roberts, musical director Nathan Jones and choreographer Annie Davies, and given them an impressive pool of young talent from around the area to work with.

Added to that, *Fiddler on the Roof* is a classic show, full of good tunes, drama and humour, with an added resonance in this day and age, as the villagers who have lived for many years in Russia are forced to become refugees.

The cast put on five performances over three days (February 23-25), and I saw the final one, on Saturday night, where an appreciative audience gave the young performers a well-deserved standing ovation.

My only problem is how to review it, because the depth of talent available to the BYT meant that a number of roles were shared, with two actors appearing on alternate nights.

The main character is Tevye, the village milkman and philosopher, who has six daughters. Owen Rhys Evans played Tevye on all five

shows, but his four eldest daughters were shared between eight girls.

It would be easy to enthuse about the Saturday cast, but that seems unfair on the Friday girls. I have it on good authority that they were excellent too.

Similarly, the male roles of Motel, the young tailor who is in love with Tevye's oldest daughter, Tzeitel, and Mordcha, a prominent villager, were shared between James Evans Jones and Rob Davis. Motel gets a song, 'Miracle of Miracles' but Mordcha doesn't.

Consequently, I can report that Rob sang it very well indeed. I can't comment on James, but as last year he was Tony, the lead in *West Side Story*, I doubt if the Friday audience felt short changed.

To put it in football terms, the BYT is bit like Chelsea at the moment. A pretty impressive 11 take the field, but even more intimidating is the talent on the bench!

Some cast members were on stage for every performance, and as Tevye and his wife Golde, Owen Rhys Evans and Rebecca Leigh were an excellent team.

Tevye has the eye-catching songs, and Owen made the most of 'If I Were a Rich Man'. I liked the light and shade in his performance. Tevye can be a bit larger than life, but Owen made him more of an everyman.

However, Owen and Rebecca really shone with their duet, 'Do You Love Me?' which they made funny, relatable and poignant all at once.

The main comedy role in *Fiddler* is Yente, the matchmaker, and this gave Aisling McCormack Thomas a

chance to showcase her talents, getting plenty of laughs as the old busybody.

It's not that long ago that I saw her playing the lead in *Annie* in Cowbridge Comprehensive's school show, so it's good to see someone put her singing talents on one side to make the show work so well.

There were strong performances throughout. Last year, Lewis Scott had the showy role of Bernardo, the leader of the Sharks, in *West Side Story*, but here he got plenty of laughs as Lazar Wolf, the elderly, drunken butcher who has set his sights on Zeitel – before true love intervenes.

Iwan Bond, playing Perchik, the idealistic revolutionary who is in love with Hodel, Tevye's second oldest daughter, was also a strong performer.

Again, in 'The Dream', where Tevye conjures up a dream to persuade Golde to approve of Tzeitel's young suitor, there were excellent ghostly cameos from Lili Smith and Layla Miller.

Essentially, *Fiddler on the Roof* is an ensemble piece, and what was so enjoyable about this production was how much each performer gave on stage, whether in a featured role or as part of the chorus.

In the cast list below, take note of the eight girls who shared the roles of Tevye's four daughters. On their alternate nights, they were in the chorus, making sure that numbers such as 'Sunrise, Sunset' worked as well as they could.

They were all part of the team, keeping the BYT where it should be – right at the top



A village celebration during happier times.



ABOVE: The Russians tell the villagers they must leave.



Owen Rhys Evans as Tevye and (below) with Rebecca Leigh as Golde. (Photos taken in rehearsal, so Owen is not yet in full make-up – ie no beard!)



Thomas; AVRUM - Richards, Isabelle George Neeson; Evans Lili - Perl GRANDMA TZEITEL Arnold, Grace Clear, - Lili Smith; NACHUM Rachel Clear, - Christian Moseley; DANCERS

FRUMA SARAH - Fantasy Feet Dance Company Cordelia Wickenden, Kaisha Shears; CONSTABLE: Matthew Lee;

FYEDKA: Jack Williams/ Huw Evans; IEANOV: Gethin Williams; ALEXI: Evan Laidler/Matthew Jones; JOSEF: Jaydon Jones/Dylan Thomas; ISSAC: Jake Thomas; MOSES: Jude Blake; LEVI: Patrick O'Neill; DANIEL: Benji Jones; BENJAMIN: Billy Thomas; LUC: Will Foskett.

CHORUS Gemma Dunlop,

Lucy Beale, Abbi Audsley, Carys Morgan, Caitlyn Huckridge,

Daisy Brown, Aled Davies, Catrin Davies, Georgina Anderson,

Hannah Strong, Holly Sinclair, India Clatworthy, Jenny Tanner, Jenny

Passingham, Molly Corthing, Lowri Rees Owen, Olivia Pownall,

Dafydd Rees, Evan Davies, Joel McClean

Howell, Millie Stables, Nathan Powell, Orla Danahar, Rhys Jones, Lucia Brown, Elin Jarmin, Megan Prance,

Jorja Jenkins, Alea Beechey, Daniel Huckridge, Jack Davies Ed Neeson, Rhys Keagle, Jamie Wyatt Libby Purdie, Matt Neeson, Sienna Jones, Poppy Shears, Harry Howells, Tomos McQueen, Katie Jeanette, Cerys Jones Lily Barrett, Jack

Sound: David Spencer, William Lewis.

Assistant Stage Managers Oliver Millen, Sam Stables, Emma Jenkins.

Hair and Makeup Gabrielle Goldthorpe,

Samantha Buck, Paige Rosser.

ORCHESTRA:

Flute: Cameron Cullen; Clarinet: Sian

Evans; Trumpet: Corey

Morris; Keyboard: Sioned Evans;

Trombone: Daf Thomas; Percussion: Phil Hughes; Kit: Max Ireland; Guitar: Luke Adams; Violin: Annie Pullar; Cello: Sophie Nash; Bass: Craig Walker.



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## ASTRONOMY CORNER...



**Dr Fraser Lewis  
of Cardiff  
University**

BRIDGEND Astronomical Society's March meeting takes place at 7.30pm on Friday, March 10, at Pyle Church Hall, when Dr Fraser Lewis of Cardiff University, will debate the subject of 'What has astronomy ever done for us?'

During March, BAS will be holding an open astronomical observing opportunity from 7.30pm until 9pm in the grounds of Pencoed Comprehensive School. There will be several telescopes set up, as well as mounted astronomical binoculars.

Each session attended by a society member prepared to show

you the wonders of the heavens. The actual date cannot be fixed too far in advance as it will be weather dependent.

Details are currently posted on the website, [www.bridgendastronomicalsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridgendastronomicalsociety.co.uk) and click on the newsletter link. Keep checking the site through the month, to find out which dates will be chosen. This is a public event and all are welcome.

### WHAT'S UP?

VENUS looks startlingly bright in the evening twilight as it moves around to Earth's side of the sun. Mars, recognisable by its reddish hue, is nearby but much

fainter.

Jupiter rises mid evening and shines very brightly through the night in the constellation Virgo. The early evening sky at this time of the year is particularly rich in stars, with the glorious constellations of Orion and Taurus looking their very best (pick out Betelgeuse, the red giant star at the left shoulder of Orion).

The plane of our galaxy, the Milky Way, runs between them and Gemini, with its bright stars Castor and Pollux. Scan the milky way with a pair of binoculars for an endless view of starfields.

NORMAN LLOYD

### Renowned pianist at Hope

HOPE Baptist Church will welcome Soyeon Sophia Lee, a renowned classical pianist, to play this Sunday.

Sophia started playing the piano aged four with her first public performance three years later.

She studied at Seoul Art High School, reputedly one of the best music institutions in Asia.

During her advanced studies in Europe, she won three competitions at London's Royal College of Music (Junior Department), and at the Ecole Normal de Musique de Paris she obtained three diplomas and studied under such as Franco-Rene Duchable, Anne Queffelec and Vlado Perlemuter.

Sophia has given concerts and

recitals in the UK, France, Italy, Switzerland and lately in New York with the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra in Yamaha Hall.

Between 2008 and 2013 she was a piano professor and a lecturer at the University of Seoul, and in 2012 she released her first CD *Touch of Heart*.

These days, Sophia donates her talent to spiritual concert tours throughout the world and I am sure her talent for music and words will delight any audience.

As part of her present tour – Mission for Christ – Sophia will be performing at Hope Baptist Church, Station Hill, Bridgend on Sunday, March 5th at 6pm.

**RHONWEN MILES**  
*Secretary, Hope Baptist Church*

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## GVS funding applications

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) has arranged a day of pre-booked appointments in collaboration with the Big Lottery Fund (BLF) for its Awards for All Wales (A4AW) and People and Places (P&P) programmes.

A4AW awards grants are between £500 and £5,000 and P&P grants are between £5,001 and £1m. Voluntary and community groups serving the Vale of Glamorgan will be able to apply for a half-hour A4AW or 45-minute P&P appointment with a BLF advisor to discuss the eligibility of a potential application.

Groups that wish to apply must be available

anytime between 10am and 5pm on Thursday, March 16.

To apply for an appointment, forward an outline application proposal (one side of A4 maximum), preferably by e-mail, to dave@gvs.wales or alternatively it can be posted to GVS, Barry Community Enterprise Centre, Skomer Road, Barry (CF62 9DA).

Applications must be received by Wednesday, March 8. Please state whether your project is for A4AW or P&P funding.

Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) tel: 01446 741706, e-mail: enquiries@gvs.wales, or www.gvs.wales.

## Ben aiming to be iNVNCBL for RNLI

**LOCAL RNLI lifeboat crew member and education volunteer, Ben Philips, is participating in the gruelling 10k obstacle iNVNCBL race series – to raise money for the life saving organisation.**

Stationed at RNLI Barry Docks, he will travel hay bales, scale walls and crawl through mud on Saturday, March 4 in Margam Park, near Bridgend.

Ben will be running as part of 'The Rum Runners' team with his friends Sammi Munson and Philippe Moracchini.

The team are hoping to reach their target and raise £200 with donations.

Ben is no stranger to challenges as he raised nearly £1,000 for the RNLI with a historical 'Norman soldier' haircut in October last year.

An RNLI education volunteer, Ben delivers vital sea safety messages to school children and other young people. He is also a volunteer



**Lifeboat crew member and education volunteer, Ben 'Sven' Philips, in full RNLI kit and equipment.**  
Photo by Becci Townsend.

lifeboat crew member at Barry Dock RNLI and his family have a long history of service with the station. His great-grandfather and his brother were both crewmen and his dad is a second coxswain.

Ben said: "I am always finding new ways and challenges to raise money for an organisation close to my heart. This is my biggest challenge yet."

"We are running this event because, as a group who enjoy water sports and being at sea, the RNLI plays an extremely meaningful part in

ensuring our safety at sea."

"As a crew member and volunteer, I see first-hand the difference raising money can make for both the crew and the local community to ensure people are safe and return home."

The RNLI needs around £460,000 per day and relies almost entirely upon donations from members of the public in raising money for the charity's 237 life stations and 350-boat fleet, provide continuous training and modern safety equipment for crew members, 'from boots to boats'.

The average equipment cost to ensure the safety of individual lifeboat crew members is around £2,500. This includes waterproof clothing, lifejackets, thermal suits and safety helmets.

You can support Ben and the rest of 'The Rum Runners' team by donating on their Just Giving page: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sven-RNLI. More information can be found on the RNLI website, www.rnli.org.

## Cardiff Airport wings in for Alzheimer's Society Cymru

STAFF at Cardiff Airport have presented Alzheimer's Society Cymru with a donation of £1,040, the total amount raised following a recent raffle collection.

This fundraising activity is just one of the ways Cardiff Airport is now working with the charity to raise awareness of dementia. Staff will continue to develop a relationship with Alzheimer's Society Cymru and will undergo additional awareness training to become Dementia Friends; to enhance the customer service experience in ways that will help passengers with dementia and their carers.

Cardiff Airport's aim is to become one of the few UK airports to be recognised as a 'Dementia Friendly' airport with the support of the charity, whose Dementia Friends campaign is already recognised across Wales.

Cheryl George, community fundraiser for Alzheimer's Society Cymru in south east Wales, visited Cardiff Airport to collect the donation, and said: "We are so very thankful to the team at Cardiff Airport for choosing to support Alzheimer's Society Cymru through their annual raffle.

"The £1,040 raised is gratefully received. This money will go directly to help fund research, provide support and campaign for a better quality of life for people with dementia.

"The Airport's charity committee supports so many charities and good causes throughout the years and it is great that dementia is high on the Airport's agenda. We are really looking forward to developing our relationship further and this will include running Dementia Friends sessions with staff very soon and helping the airport become Dementia Friendly."



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# Woman 'heartbroken' after pet cat is killed by airgun



Rusty's X-Ray,  
showing  
the pellet.

AN appeal for information has been launched after a Barry cat died on a veterinarian's recovery table after being shot by an air rifle.

The cat, named Rusty, had the pellet removed by operation on February 24.

An x-ray scan revealed the pellet in the cat's back, but sadly, Rusty did not make it through the recovery stages following surgery.

An RSPCA Cymru spokesman said: "The cat started to appear unwell approximately two weeks earlier, but had no obvious wounds on her body, so it was not apparent she had been the victim of a shooting.

"Rusty was also being treated for a chest infection. However, it is now believed this is when the shooting took place."

RSPCA Cymru is urging anyone with information potentially related to the incident to contact the charity's inspectorate appeal line. The incident is

understood to have taken place about a fortnight earlier, on Brookfield Avenue, where the cat lived.

Gemma Black, RSPCA inspector, said: "Our thoughts are with Rusty's owner at this very difficult time for them.

"The cat sadly didn't recover from the operation on February 24. This sad and shocking incident is the latest example of the suffering to pets that one person with an air weapon can cause.

"We urge anyone with any relevant information to come forward, and contact the RSPCA's inspectorate appeal line on 0300 123 8018."

Rusty's owner Kathryn Price said: "We are heartbroken to lose Rusty, who was one of our three much-loved cats.

"She was an older cat, who didn't go far – so we fear the shooting took place while she was in our back garden."

*Should you wish to support the RSPCA, you can give £3 by texting LOVE to 87023 (text costs £3 + one standard network rate message).*

## Barnardo's event

**BARRY** Barnardo's fundraising committee have arranged an afternoon of entertainment and refreshments entitled 'A Touch of Irish'.

The afternoon will include entertainment by local artists and groups with refreshments in the Church Hall of All Saints Church, Park Road, Barry, at 2pm on Saturday, March 25. Tickets (£7.50) are available from Nans Binding on 01446 734083. All welcome.

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# BRIDGEND FORD STAFF ARE 'MOVING CLOSER TO STRIKE ACTION' – SAYS UNION LEADER

AT the time of going to press yesterday (Wednesday), a confused picture had emerged regarding the future of Bridgend Ford, which makes 250,000 engines a year for Jaguar-Land Rover (JLR), and twice that number for its own use.

The plant, which opened in 1980, employs some 1,900 people and specialises in producing petrol engines. It supports around 10,000 further supply-chain jobs in south Wales and beyond.

The GEM understands that top officials from Ford UK and Unite union were planning to be present at the Bridgend plant yesterday.

Unite claimed on February 28 that more than 1,100 jobs were at risk, although just two years ago, Ford of Europe made the recommendation to Ford HQ in Detroit to build the new 'Dragon' petrol engines at Bridgend.

The investment is being backed with an additional investment grant by the Welsh Government.

The union is concerned because Ford has not issued any five-year outlook for the plant – something that it says is in place for other plants.

Len McCluskey, leader of Unite, called on Ford to "end the agony of its Welsh workforce and commit at last to the Bridgend engine plant".

Mr McCluskey said that failure to provide commitments on new investment will see the workforce move one step closer to strike action in defence of their jobs.

In early 2015, it was announced that production of the JLR engines would move to its new plant in Wolverhampton, cutting by a third the number of units produced in Bridgend.

First Minister of Wales, and Assembly Member for Bridgend, Carwyn Jones AM, is in the US on a trade mission.

In a statement issued on Twitter, he said: "These reports are clearly deeply concerning, and we are actively seeking urgent assurances from Ford, both in the UK and US, about their future plans.

He added that there is "dialogue" – through trades unions – with the workforce, members of which are "being offered every assistance".

However, Welsh Conservative AM and Shadow

Economy Secretary Russell George said yesterday that the First Minister "must travel to Detroit [Ford HQ] to seek assurances from Ford executives over the security of its Bridgend plant's long-term future".

Mr George continued: "This situation has been rumbling on since June now, and right in the backyard of the First Minister's constituency," he said.

"This is very worrying news for workers and their families, who for many months now have been grappling with an increasingly uncertain future."

Bridgend MP Madeleine Moon said that she had spoken to Ford officials on Tuesday [February 28] and claimed there had been no mention of job losses, adding that the latest development "has completely blindsided me".

She continued: "We are living in uncertain times. We know for some time that that production of the Sigma engine, exported to the US, China and Europe is coming to an end. The Jaguar Land Rover engine contract is also coming to an end.

"Expectations about the number of new Dragon engines for export to Europe has declined. So there is a need to attract new work to the Bridgend plant.

"It is important that management, unions and the workforce work together to maintain the productivity and viability of the Bridgend plant. I along with my fellow local MPs will continue to work to seek tariff free access to European markets so that new work can be attracted to the Bridgend plant."

Secretary of State for Wales and Vale MP Alun Cairns told The GEM: "I met with Ford officials yesterday [February 28] and discussed various issues at the plant, including the natural life cycle of engines made there and ongoing plans for modernisation.

"As Secretary of State I, will continue to positively engage with Ford at Bridgend."

The GEM will continue to monitor this changing story.

*Are you affected by the suspected job cuts, either at Bridgend Ford or in the supply chain?*

*Contact, in strictest confidence, The GEM on 01446 774484 or by email to [editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk](mailto:editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk).*

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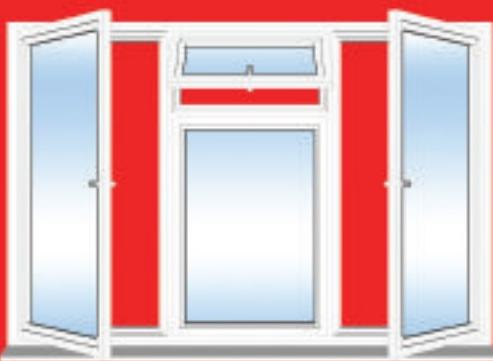
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## Samaritans reach out and say – 'we are here to listen'

SAMARITANS branches across Wales were at their local train stations for St David's Day to raise awareness of their service.

While many people are aware of Samaritans' national emotional support service, Samaritans Cymru used the Welsh Saint's day to increase awareness of its Welsh language free-to-call number.

Samaritans also want people across Wales to know that they can get in touch about anything that's troubling them, no matter how large or small the issue.

Common reasons people contact Samaritans are relationship and family problems, bereavement, financial worries, job, college study-related stress, loneliness and isolation, depression, painful and/or disabling physical illness, alcohol and/or drug problems and thoughts of suicide.

Welsh rugby referee, Nigel Owens, MBE, a supporter of Samaritans, said: "I'm proud to be supporting Samaritans Cymru for St David's Day. It's really important that we promote their free Welsh language number for

Welsh speakers. Samaritans are there for those who are struggling to cope and that includes communities right across Wales."

Branches in Wales involved in the Wales-wide event included Cardiff, Swansea and Bridgend. Geraint Morgan, community relations manager for Arriva Trains Wales, said: "The rail industry cares about the wellbeing and safety of its customers and staff and we are pleased to be supporting Samaritans as they promote their Welsh and English language helplines and the valuable support provided by their volunteers."

Samaritans is available round the clock, every single day of the year, to listen and offer confidential support. Call 116 123 (this number is free and will not show up on your phone bill) or call the Welsh language line on 0808 164 0123 (also free, and open from 7pm – 11pm, seven days a week). You can also email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org), or visit [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org) to find details of your nearest branch in Wales.

## Work by women scholars in Wales wins top awards

WORK by two postgraduate researchers at Cardiff University is being recognised in annual research awards presented in memory of a Welsh woman who campaigned for women's rights across the world.

The Audrey Jones Memorial Awards for Research by Women – now in their second year – will be presented at the Wales Assembly of Women annual conference in Cardiff in March.

Audrey Jones, who represented Wales on the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and contributed to UN consultations and debates on women's rights across the world, died in 2015 aged 84. Up until she retired in 1990 she was deputy head of St Cyres Comprehensive School in Penarth, where she had taught since 1960.

Co-ordinator of the Audrey Jones Memorial Awards Dr Jane Salisbury said: "We were delighted with the quality of entries we received this year. Audrey always felt too many research findings remained hidden away from public view. She would be thrilled to know a new platform for female scholars had been established in her name."

The theme for the annual Wales Assembly of Women conference is: 'Brexit Really is a Women's Issue!' The morning session will hear from Baroness Eluned Morgan AM and Julie Morgan AM; both AMs are members of National Assembly committees looking at EU issues. The role of the EU in gender equality will be tackled by Cardiff University academic Dr Rachel Minto.

The 2017 Audrey Jones Memorial

Awards will be presented in the afternoon:

Welsh Women's attitudes towards a different form of cervical screening: human papilloma virus (HPV) self-sampling: Dr Denita Williams, division of population medicine, College of Biomedical & Life Sciences, School of Medicine, Cardiff University.

E cigarettes – a new route into tobacco use? Implications for girls in Wales: Elen de Lacey, Decipher Research Centre (Development & Evaluation of Complex Interventions for Public Health Improvement), Cardiff University.

The Wales Assembly of Women conference is being held on Saturday, March 11 at Cardiff University, School of Social Sciences, Glamorgan Building, from 10am until 3.30pm. The conference costs £12 to include lunch and refreshments. For booking form and further information email: [info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk](mailto:info@walesassemblyofwomen.co.uk)

The Wales Assembly of Women is an independent organisation for women in Wales, NGO accredited to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Membership is open to all women in Wales and to women living elsewhere who have connections with Wales. It is a campaigning organisation for women's rights and receives no public money. It is funded by the membership and charity grants.

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## Fostering Information Day at Cats Protection Bridgend Adoption Centre

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# Porthcawl man was 'drunk and disorderly' in Bridgend

**AN ex-Welsh Guardsman who suffered an injury when he served in Afghanistan, was fined £100 and ordered to pay £135 costs at Cardiff Crown Court for being drunk and disorderly in Bridgend, writes AJ SICLUNA.**

In addition, the court heard Michael Rees (26) of Glen Road, Porthcawl, was in breach of a 12-month suspended sentence for wounding, battery and theft. For that, an electronic curfew which had been imposed between 6pm and 8pm, was extended by six weeks.

Judge Michael Fitton said Rees had been fortunate to be dealt with by means of a suspended sentence. Plus, he added, he imagined that Rees found circumstances difficult when he was discharged from the Armed Forces. Prosecutor Rebecca

Griffiths said that on January 27, Rees was spotted on CCTV drunk in Market Street, Bridgend.

He was "extremely intoxicated" and was being restrained.

The suspended sentence involved a domestic incident in which Rees sent abusive text messages to a woman friend, barged into her home in a rage, took her handbag and cash and refused to return it, saying he was going to burn £100, but later gave it back.

On one occasion, said Ms Griffiths, he lashed out and headbutted a police officer.

Solicitor Robert Chudleigh said: "Drunk and disorderly was yet another example of Rees behaving in a disorderly fashion."

"Sadly, he suffered a back injury when serving with the Welsh Guards in Afghanistan and had to be discharged."

# FULL AHEAD FOR PORTHCawl'S LANDMARK MARITIME CENTRE



ABOVE: The Porthcawl Harbourside team (left to right): Jayne Bowden, Mark Bryant, Stuart Bentley, Claire Godfrey, Mike Clarke.

## Driver 'didn't see'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mrs Jenkins was pronounced dead by paramedics 45 minutes later and died after suffering 'catastrophic injuries'.

The cause of death, said Mr Wilson, was blunt trauma injuries which led to cardiac arrest.

Police officers discovered that Davies was not the owner of the car, had failed to tell his insurance company he was disqualified and had an expired provisional driving licence.

Mrs Jenkins' daughter, Hayley Morgan, said her mother was "selfless grief and always willing to help".

She was, she said, "an amazing lady" and the entire family were devastated that they would never get the opportunity to say goodbye to her.

Solicitor David Sedgwick, representing Davies, said: "Quite simply, he didn't see her until it was too late."

Passing sentence, Recorder of Cardiff, Judge Eleri Rees, said what happened had a devastating effect on Mrs Jenkins' family and friends.

She added that she was conscious that no sentence was adequate to reflect the loss to the family and their

Davies was also disqualified from driving for seven years and 49 weeks.

**T H E W e l s h Government (WG) Minister for Skills and Science, Julie James, has announced that a flag ship development for Porthcawl has taken another step forward after receiving the green light for £2.1 million EU funding.**

The £5.5 million Porthcawl Maritime Centre is part of the WG's wider Tourism Attractor Destination (TAD) programme,

which aims to create 11 must-visit destinations across Wales.

Also backed with funds from the Big Lottery, the Welsh Government, as well as private and third sector funds, the Maritime Centre is the first phase of the Porthcawl Resort Investment Focus

programme, which aims to transform Porthcawl into a high-quality signature destination in Wales that will attract new visitors to the area.

The development has the potential for 55 jobs as well as supporting jobs during its construction, providing employment opportunities for local people.

Speaking at the official launch of Porthcawl Maritime Centre, the Minister said: "The coast is the area to receive the go-county's unique selling point and the reason why most visitors come to the area. But to attract more visitors to the area we need to provide more exemplary facilities and services for residents and visitors. Porthcawl Maritime Centre will fulfil this need by providing an exciting and innovative 'year round' family-centred attraction right on the waterfront."

"We believe this is possibly the biggest community-conceived and led tourism project in the UK, and we are able to tender for the construction and get started."

Porthcawl Maritime Centre will be a multi-use building, and will include: a new coastal science and discovery centre - 'SeaQuest'; a new headquarters for the Welsh Surfing Federation, a new training unit for the Sea Cadets, a new base to secure the future of the Coastguard Services, a well-being centre, a wave rider attraction; a 'learning café/bistro' and a restaurant.

Construction on the Maritime Centre is expected to begin in mid-2017. Over the next five years, the TAD programme will see more than £85 million of EU, Welsh Government, Welcoming the Private and Charitable decision, Mike Clarke, funds invested in tourism chairman of Porthcawl Harbourside CIC said:

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**FOR farmers, it's that time of year again when the annual Single Application Form needs to be submitted. You've probably got sheep lambing and cows calving, and the last thing you have time for right now is yet more paperwork to complete.**

Rachel Saunders, County Executive Officer of the Farmers' Union of Wales for Glamorgan, has some useful tips to help you with the process:

- \*You can start completing your form from the 6th of March but the deadline to submit is 15th of May. Even being a day late will incur a penalty on your payment. Get it done early!
- \*The forms can only be completed online. Make sure your computer and internet speed is able to cope with this technical form. You might like to print a copy too? How's that ink level looking?
- \*The form is altered every year, so make sure you've read the rules and guidelines. It's usually quite hefty, but very important you know about all the requirements and rules that might affect you.

\*Has there been any changes to your business over the past year or will there be imminently? Have you bought/rented more or less land? Are you part of any agricultural environmental schemes? Do you have your stocking figures? What about checking the latest mapping measurements? These will all need to be notified on the form.

Everyone in the farming community knows that it's important to get the SAF submission right, and the FUW offers professional support in all their offices across Wales to help you with the process. Their extremely experienced and trained staff have had the latest Welsh Government training in order to assist all types of farms with the forms and process. What's more, this support is offered free as part and parcel of the comprehensive membership package.

Get in touch with your local FUW office in Cowbridge and speak to Rachel Saunders on 01446 774838 to book an appointment today to join and get that vital paperwork sorted. Then you can get back out on the farmyard quickly, doing what you're meant to be doing - farming!

## Dante is full of energy!

**DOG of The Week at Dogs Trust is Dante, our beautiful 18-month-old collie.**

Dante is full of energy but does have a sensitive side, and can get a bit mouthy when worried so will need correct handling.

Dante mixes well with other dogs in open spaces and would enjoy meeting his doggy friends. Dante's forever home needs to be with experienced collie owners who live in a quiet location, as he gets anxious around traffic.

If you are interested in Dante and are able to commit to continued training and visits to the centre to get to know Dante, call us on 01656 725219 or visit our website.

CARDIFF and Vale College student Danielle is a career-ready winner, and has been recognised as one of the top business students in the country.

Danielle, a 19-year-old Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business student from Barry has won the Sir Winfried Bischoff regional award for Wales, the west and Midlands. She will travel to London later this month, to give a presentation and interview to a judging panel that will determine the UK-wide winner of the award for Career Ready students.

Tracy Bird, CAVC's Career Ready programme co-ordinator, said: "We are all so proud of Danielle – she's done



## Student aims to prove she is Career Ready



Danielle Halford at CAVC's campus.

brilliantly and really deserves this award. The team here at Cardiff and Vale College are all rooting for her as Danielle stands an extremely good chance of being the UK-wide Career Ready Student of the Year."

CAVC is a committed member of the Career Ready programme as part of its drive to ensure students are employable and able to add instant value to any workplace.

Career Ready is a national charity that links with schools and colleges to prepare learners for the world of work. Alongside their academic studies, students benefit from a two-year programme of regular mentoring, workplace visits, masterclasses and internships.

During the programme Danielle had an internship with the bank Santander and impressed senior staff there with her presentation skills. One even asked that she leave him a copy of

PowerPoint presentation she had prepared as it was the best that he had ever seen and he wanted to keep it as a template. A Welsh speaker, Danielle also gave the bilingual opening address at the college's Career Ready graduation ceremony last year.

"I was completely surprised to win this award, to be honest," Danielle said. "It was nice to get the opportunity – I never expected that my name would be put forward so it's just amazing."

"I'm really excited to be going to London; it will be yet another opportunity to meet new people and have new experiences. I'm very excited and happy to be going."

"Career Ready has been completely life changing for me. I would never have expected to have the goals I have now compared to the ones I had before I started on the programme – they are so much more ambitious."

"I've applied to go to university to do a degree in business management and law, which is something that would never have crossed my mind before I started the Career Ready programme. It's completely changed my career path, and has been even better than I expected."

## 'Don't hamper us!' is the message from Welsh dairy farmers

**G L A M O R G A N farmer Abi Reader took to the NFU conference stage to add produce to a specially-created hamper to be sent to Liam Fox MP, the International Trade Secretary.**

cannot be undermined. "I was delighted to be able to join farmers and food producers from across the UK in sending this message to Liam Fox, who will be negotiating trade deals for Britain.

"We need Dr Fox to be proud of British farming – and not undersell it – we need him to ensure that our high standards are maintained and we don't open our borders up to cheap food produced at any cost from around the world."



Abi Reader at the NFU conference in Birmingham.

## Cowbridge Art Society

**ON Thursday, March 2 the artist, author and demonstrator Paul Weaver from Bristol ([www.paulweaverart.co.uk](http://www.paulweaverart.co.uk)) will give an acrylic demonstration of painting animals in a landscape.**

**On March 9, artist Gayle Rogers ([www.gaylerogersart.com](http://www.gaylerogersart.com)) will give a demonstration of watercolour pencils.**

**The society welcomes artists of any level, and also non-artists to see demonstrations of art techniques or attend illustrated lectures on art topics.**

**We meet on Thursday evenings at the Old Hall, Cowbridge (7pm – 9 pm) and occasional visitors and new members are most welcome. For details of the society's programme and activities see [www.cowbridgeartsociety.com](http://www.cowbridgeartsociety.com) or [www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas/?ref=bookmarks](http://www.facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas/?ref=bookmarks).**

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# CARING GETHIN (AGED 6) AND HIS PALS BRING COMFORT TO THE HOMELESS...

**A six-year-old boy has been recognised by the Vale Council – after his campaign to help the homeless saw Fairfield Primary School donate more than 60 winter warmer bags to people sleeping rough in south Wales.**

Gethin Pritchard, a pupil at Fairfield, was only two when he spotted people sitting on the street in Cardiff and asked his mum, Tammy, about them.

On learning they had nowhere to live, Gethin was concerned and wanted to help.

Assisted by brother Zak and sisters Alissa and Ellie-Mai, what

began with donations of hot drinks soon stretched to food and then gift cards for local coffee shops and bakeries. But Gethin wasn't finished there, a spokesperson said and asked schoolmates to help. Together they started collecting even more supplies for the homeless.

Such was the response, a total of 64 aid bags containing the likes of thermal hats, scarves, gloves, toiletries as well as other items were donated by parents and distributed to those on the streets by charity Huggard.

Businesses also joined the effort, with Lenstec Optical Group in Caerphilly raising more than £200 towards items for bags.

Gethin and his schoolmates are now planning an even more ambitious project to collect waterproof sleeping bags and tents for the homeless.

In recognition of that effort, Gethin and other pupils at the school were recently presented with special certificates by Vale Council Deputy Leader Lis Burnett.

"When we heard what Gethin and his fellow pupils at Fairfield Primary School had done, we felt it should not go unnoticed," said Coun Burnett.

"With the encouragement and support of the school, these pupils are a shining example of good citizenship. They show great compassion at such a young age and are a credit to themselves, their families and their school. As a past pupil of the school, I was absolutely delighted to join the chief executive of the Huggard Centre at a recent school assembly to award the pupils Social Awareness certificates in recognition of their kind work."

Tammy Pritchard said: "The school was fantastic at getting on board with it all, and really helping. I mentioned it to one teacher and they thought it was a brilliant idea. Then it was put to the school council, who were right behind it as well."

Father Tony Pritchard said: "When Gethin came up with the idea of the bags, it was a bit of a headscratcher in terms of how we were going to do it. Luckily, the school were amazing. Without them we wouldn't have got this off the ground."

"Some of the kids' families really went to town. We had jackets, trousers and hoodies. We want to say a big thank you to them."

Fairfield headteacher Sian Lewis said: "We were approached by Mrs Pritchard and Gethin and straight away the school council were supportive and wanted to get behind his initiative.

"We shared the idea with the children and had a wonderful response from them and their families. An incredible amount of stuff was brought in and we're just so proud of them and especially Gethin."

"As part of the curriculum, we talk to the children about being good citizens and having good values. This is a very good example of how they put that into action."



ABOVE, left to right, back row: Coun Lis Burnett, Zak Pritchard, Tony Pritchard, Tammy Pritchard, Alissa Pritchard, Huggard chief executive Richard Edwards. Front row: Gethin Pritchard and Ellie-Mai Pritchard.



## Diabetes UK meeting

THE next meeting of this voluntary group is on Tuesday, March 21 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth at 7.30pm – 9pm.

The speaker will be Dr Julia Platts, consultant in diabetes. Group president will be giving a talk on 'developing diabetes services across Wales'. All welcome!

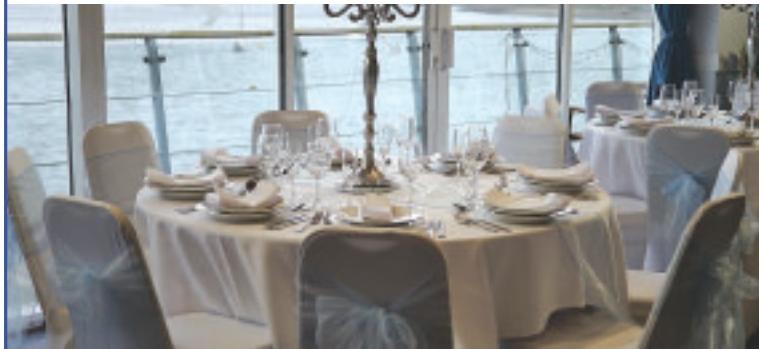
## Hospital fundraiser

LOCAL people are being asked to help raise funds for Barry Hospital's younger and older onset dementia inpatient ward, at an event on March 3 from 7.30pm at Barcocoa, Barry; £5 entry.

Featuring music and entertainment from The Fax Machines, dance to this five-piece band featuring funk, soul, pop and rock 'n' roll covers. The special guest MC is stand-up comedian Dave Parton Jones.

Younger and older adults living with dementia are cared for on St Barruc's ward at the Barry Hospital, where the money raised will go directly towards making it "more comfortable and homely for the residents"

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## True-life story lacks the human touch..

**THE Boston Marathon bombing in 2013 was a terrorist attack that shook the world, its impact reverberating as people struggled to comprehend the severity of this atrocity.**

The bombing, and the pursuit of the men responsible captivated a worldwide audience, so it's unsurprising that it has become the subject of a film, *Patriot's Day*.

Directed by Peter Berg, it stars Mark Wahlberg as Tommy Saunders, a policeman who is caught up in the bombing; providing support to the Boston police commissioner Ed Davis (John Goodman), FBI agent Ron DesLauriers (Kevin Bacon), it sees the city go into lockdown as the hunt for the two men (Alex Wolff and Themis Melikidze) responsible for the attack goes into overdrive...

Coming so soon after the events of April 15, 2013, *Patriot's Day* is a

film that attempts to delve beneath the surface to tell the story of how this attack occurred and the events that led to the death and capture of the men responsible.

While a noble, gripping story that celebrates the hard work and efforts of those tasked with capturing the terrorists (and those caught up in their actions), the film all too often feels like a procedural, a slowburner that etches out how the police and FBI went from having no information to enough information.

While this doesn't diminish the power of the story being told, and makes for a thoroughly engaging watch, you can't help but feel the more intriguing story is in what the film doesn't tell you.

As the film builds up to the attack we meet several characters who prove to be key in the story that unfolds, whether they be innocents who will find themselves embroiled in the events of the

ensuing days or those responsible for the attacks; yet the majority of these characters end up on the periphery, sidelined by the no-less engaging but slightly more familiar story of how the terrorists were caught.

Rather than appeal to the human interest in how these people survived and made it through the atrocity (something *Marathon: The Patriot's Day Bombing* documentary does exceptionally well), we end up with something that feels a little over-familiar, seemingly cribbed from the likes of 24 or any other 'catch-a-terrorist' film.

It's interesting, certainly, especially for those with little knowledge of what went down between the bombs going off and those responsible being tracked down, but doesn't really tread any new water in terms of its execution.

This is Peter Berg and Mark Wahlberg's second true-life disaster film in six months,

having previously directed and starred respectively in *Deepwater Horizon*, and both do a decent job here. Berg always brings an immediacy and an immersiveness to his filmmaking and this is no different, using inserts of real footage to give the film a more factual and grounded edge, while a shoot-out grittily and impressively staged.

Wahlberg plays an amalgamation of several real-life characters, and despite being the name above the title of the film, and perhaps because of this doesn't really play a leading role; his Boston sensibility and knowledge of the area comes into play, guiding larger forces to make decisions they know will help track down the terrorists, but a monologue about the impact of terrorism aside, his role slots alongside the other performances with little fanfare, the film peculiarly anchored around his character.

John Goodman,

Kevin Bacon and JK Simmons all give the film a foundation of class and dependability in their roles, but it's very much an ensemble feel, the story dictating the importance of the characters and their involvement in the story.

But what smacks most of a missed opportunity is the last five minutes of the film; eschewing the fictionalised telling of the story, a mix of interviews with the real people who are depicted in the film and footage of the city in the aftermath of the attack are more powerful and potent than much of what the film before.

Berg aims to end the film on the note that, given the atrocities that have since taken place in Brussels and Paris (to name but two), the power lies not with those who wish to harm but with those who have survived and thrived despite the actions of others.

It's a strong conclusion, yet given that the film is about the

manhunt rather than the human stories at the centre of the attack, it strikes a false note – Berg would arguably have been better telling this story in *Patriot's Day* rather than the compelling, but overly-familiar one he chooses to run with.

**VERDICT** – A powerful story well told, *Patriot's Day* is nonetheless something of a missed opportunity. Eschewing the story of those caught up in the

2013 Boston Marathon bombing for a more linear manhunt story, we are caught up in the drama but never as fully emotionally invested as we could have been. That said, few directors are capable of producing such compelling work as Peter Berg in what is still an impressive film.

**Recommended.**  
**SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED:** *Deepwater Horizon* (2016), *World Trade Centre* (2006).



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# Open weekend tells the story of wartime escape from Hut 9

THE site of the former Second World War German prisoner-of-war camp at Island Farm, Bridgend, was opened to the public recently as the Hut 9 Preservation Group staged their first open weekend of 2017.

A total of 630 visitors took the opportunity to visit the scene of the famous 'German Great Escape' and were entertained by Members of the Hut 9 volunteers, who told them more about the history of the site. The former World War Two camp is sealed to visitors for much of the time, but several times each year the locked vehicles were also on doors of the hut from site.

Military historians were on hand to tell visitors about the history of the buildings, from their occupation by female workers at the nearby ordnance factory to the housing of hundreds of German prisoners of war. Also on display were dozens of original wall paintings made by the occupants over 70 years ago and rescued from some of the now-demolished huts.

Brett Exton gave illustrated talks on the history of the site, and Dr Jonathan Hicks told visitors about the work of the group since its formation in 2012, and ALSO gave an insight into that famous night in March 1945 when 70 German prisoners made their bid for freedom.

A spokesman said:

"Every penny donated by visitors at these special openings is spent on improving the visitor experience. In the last two years, under the guidance of group member Wayne Gill, the group has renovated a nearby derelict building to convert it into a visitor centre and this building now contains a re-creation of the night that 70 Germans escaped through a tunnel dug from one of the rooms in Hut 9.

The group has also worked hard to kit out

the rooms inside Hut 9 to give visitors an insight into its fascinating past and another newly-furnished room was opened for the first time for this event.

A replica guard tower has been constructed by the group and a replica NAAFI café, staffed by volunteers, provided refreshments, while group member Stel Anthony recorded the memories of visitors who remembered the site in its heyday.

Dr Hicks said: "It was apparent from the hundreds of positive comments made by our visitors that they value the work we have done to keep alive this important piece of Welsh history. The open weekend was fully booked up months in advance, which gives some idea of the scale of public interest in this historic site."

"All 300 tickets for our June 10 event have already been reserved. I am now taking bookings for our October event, and half of the 600 tickets have already been snapped up. The interest in our work is phenomenal."

*Donations to the Hut 9 voluntary group, which is seeking to ensure the future of the site, are welcomed and allow the group to make even more improvements to the building and surrounding area.*

To reserve a place on the Hut 9 tours on October 7 and 8, email Dr Hicks at: bookings@hut9.org.uk. Details of the tours are also available via the group's website: www.hut9.org.uk.

For more information

v i s i t

www.snowdogtailsin.wales.

## Snowdogs spring into action for Ty Hafan...

EVERY dog has its day, and the Snowdogs are using theirs to raise money for a children's hospice.

On Thursday, March 9, Snowdogs: Tails in Wales will be welcoming everyone to an open day at Cardiff International White Water.

The event, from 8am to 6pm, will give curious dog lovers the chance to find out more about this 'mass participation public art trail' in aid of life-limited children and their families supported by Ty Hafan children's hospice.

The campaign, which has already created a buzz across the Vale of Glamorgan and Cardiff, will see a huge pack of 1.5m-high Snowdog sculptures sited on streets, iconic buildings and open spaces.

Each dog will have its own unique design created and painted by an artist or celebrity.

At the end of the 10-week trail, each dog will find a permanent home when they are put up for auction to raise money for the charity.

Helen Gibbons, project manager of Snowdogs: Tails in Wales, said: "This event is an opportunity to find out more about the campaign and how you or your organisation can get involved."

"Anyone is welcome to attend - just come in to say hello, and our friendly team will be on hand to answer any questions...and a few Snowdog sculptures are likely to make an appearance, too."

To reserve a place on the Hut 9 tours on October 7 and 8, email Dr Hicks at: bookings@hut9.org.uk. Details of the tours are also available via the group's website: www.hut9.org.uk.

For more information

v i s i t

www.snowdogtailsin.wales.



A Snowdog in the sun at Barry Beach.

## Saint's day tea with Welsh Hearts charity

WELSH HEARTS will be holding a celebrity afternoon tea to mark St David's Day on Wednesday, March 1 at 10 Cathedral Road, Cardiff, with celebrity guests including Cardiff Blues' Alex Cuthbert and other members of the Welsh rugby squad.

Sharon Owen, the charity's director, urged: "Celebrate the Welsh Saint's Day in style and enjoy a traditional St David's Day afternoon tea, with a selection of finger sandwiches, assortment of delicious cakes, scones and a glass of bubbly on arrival. It's the perfect treat for mum, daughter, gran, auntie or with your friends."

All of the money raised will help Welsh Hearts continue its work in placing life-saving defibrillators in the community, as well as the Heart Screening Wales programme.

"Your support will help to save lives right here in Wales. Please do get in touch for further information."

Purchase tickets at [welshhearts.org/events](http://welshhearts.org/events) or contact Rebecca Mathias on 029 22 40 over 482 defibrillators 26710. Tickets £20.

## AUTISM IBOOK IS LAUNCHED

ON February 16, Vale AM Jane Hutt and Vale Council Deputy Leader, Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for education tended the launch of the Practical Autism Toolkit iBook.

The AM said: "The iBook is a highly-effective, interactive resource, which has been developed through collaboration with pupils with autism and the wonderful people who support them."

The Welsh Government supported this project through the Autism Strategy Fund.

Ysgol Y Deri received £5k of ASD strategy funding which they have used to develop this resource.

The resource is designed to evolve as the schools involved continue to collaborate and work with young people with autism.

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# High-flying cabin crew students celebrate...

A GROUP of 10 cabin crew students from Cardiff and Vale College are celebrating new jobs, despite only starting their courses in September.

It means that the entire cabin crew cohort will now progress straight from college on to the first step of their chosen careers when they complete their courses in March. Nine of the students have been employed by Swissport to provide check-in services at Cardiff Airport, and one has found work with easyJet.

Last November, a further three students accepted job offers from British Airways and easyJet.

"We have had a long and reciprocal partnership with Swissport over the last ten years," CAVC Aerospace and cabin crew lecturer Kay Davies said. "If you go into Cardiff Airport now, you will still find lots of former students there."

The students are currently based at the college's renowned International Centre for Aerospace Training, which is also based at Cardiff Airport in Rhoose. They are thrilled to have found employment, thanks to the skills they learned on their course.

"The cabin crew course has been a great course and help to me," 20-year-old Amir Mushtaq from Cardiff, said. "It helped me improve my confidence and it has helped me to get a job."

"I will be sorry to leave but it will be a privilege to be working just across the road at Cardiff Airport. I would recommend this course to anyone who is interested in this industry."

Zoë Davies, 21, from Llantwit Major, said: "I am very happy to begin employment with Swissport at Cardiff Airport in March. It will give me an amazing experience with the aviation industry and is one step closer to becoming cabin crew in the near future."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the cabin crew course as it helped me gain more knowledge of the industry. I cannot wait to see what my future holds."

"It's been a wonderful course – I don't want to leave, plus the tutors are fab!" 18-year-old Hannah Williams from Penarth said. "Luckily I will only be across the road."

"I'm thrilled to have been offered a job by Swissport and I can't wait to start."

Gwenllian Arkless, 19 from Cardiff, said: "Not only did I learn a lot about cabin crew while being

on this course but also my confidence has improved when it comes to interviews. So when I found out that we had this job opportunity with Swissport I knew that my tutor, Kay Davies, was the one to thank."

Nineteen-year-old Aimee Marshall, from Barry, said: "I really enjoy the Cabin Crew course. I've made many new friends and have gained a variety of skills."

## SUPPORTIVE

"My teacher Kay has been amazing and supportive and I will be very sad to leave. I have been offered a job at Swissport and I am very excited to start as it will be an amazing experience to put on my CV and help me progress to becoming a member of cabin crew with Emirates in the future."

Olivia Knight, 18, from Cardiff, said: "I have really enjoyed my time on the CAVC Cabin Crew course, I have made friends and will have memories for life. I believe this has helped me and set me up for my future in cabin crew – it has helped my confidence and my personal skills. The teachers have been amazing and very helpful."

"I'm so glad I started my career here and am very excited to start my journey just over the road with Swissport."

Swissport are also set to interview Level 3 Aviation Operations students for part time jobs and work experience, and Aerospace Engineering students to work as ramp agents and baggage cart drivers.

## THE TY HAFAN LOTTERY DRAW

THE following are 524507, 197819, winning numbers in 802219, 343177, the Ty Hafan 409231, 450343, Crackerjackpot 895211, 521095, lottery draw 284263, 683095, number D972: 309625, 457947, ● The £3,000 280435, 823182, rollover: 789346, 676036M, 192571, ● £2,000: 837132, 396798, 891223, ● £10: 491669, 516822, 262614, 293767, 290106, 855920, 610970, 681919, 116926, 854436, 836559, 615856, 754393, 794697, 756496, 548116, 681096, 455810, 172378, 282060, 104699, 710052, 469485, 370372, 108052, 875857, 961406, 990927, 886285, 307416, 616985, 216695, 420292, 164621, 1253, 918, 880274, 1049, 1298, 10549747, 1040249, 1985267, 1578793, ● £5: 546769, 1256301, 5424, 739982, 458760, 5404, 5137. 783873, 230391, The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above. 646030, 111556, 207770, 686395, 896220, For lottery information 958045, 745072, please telephone 029 129488, 697617, 2053 2300.

## Make a noise and save lives

MY mother, the actress Marjorie Lawrence, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer three weeks before she died. It was too late for anything but palliative care.

One in 50 women will develop ovarian cancer in their lifetime. Currently, less than a third of women are confident they know the four main symptoms, and earlier diagnosis could save thousands of lives. That's why Target Ovarian Cancer wants to Start Making Noise this March for Ovarian Cancer Awareness month.

The main symptoms of ovarian cancer are: tummy pain, persistent bloating, feeling full and needing to wee more.

I'm asking your readers to help save lives by joining us to start making noise, spread the word about the symptoms and raise much-needed money to support women living with ovarian cancer in the UK.



Blue Peter's Sarah Greene.

There are loads of ways to make some noise:

Bake Some Noise with a cake sale or coffee morning; the Big Colour Clash – join us on Friday, March 10 and wear your loudest outfits in school or work for a donation; challenge yourself to tell 50 people about the symptoms and raise £50.

We'll send you everything you need – free balloons, symptoms leaflets, badges and wristbands. Call 020 7923 5474 or visit targetovariancancer.org.uk/March. Sarah Greene, Target Ovarian Cancer ambassador.

## GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS (RHAN))

(CAU FFORDD) (DROS DRO) 2017

- Ar 2 Mawrth 2017, gwnaeth Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bweriau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) Orchymyn a fydd yn gorfod i'n hysgrifir yn yr atodleni isod:
- Gelwir y Gorchymyn "Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys (Rhian)) (Cau Ffordd (Dros Dro) 2017 a daw i rym ar 6 Mawrth 2017.

### ATODLEN 1

- Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosu neu'n caniatáu i gerbyd modur deithio yn y lleoliad a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

### ATODLEN 2

- |                     |                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lleoliad</b>     | Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys rhwng y gyffordd a'r A4055 Ffordd Caerdydd a'r gyffordd a Wellwood Drive.                       |
| <b>Rheswm</b>       | I allu tynnu dec y bont o'r hen bont dros Afon Cadoxton.                                                                       |
| <b>Hyd</b>          | O 6 Mawrth 2017 am hyd at 18 mis.                                                                                              |
| <b>Llwybr Amgen</b> | Bydd gwyliau i draffig ar gael trwy gyffordd y ffordd newydd oddi ar Ffordd Caerdydd sydd i'r de o gyffordd Cross Common Road. |
| <b>DS:</b>          | Cynheli mynediad i gerddwyr trwy'r bont droed bresennol. Dyddiedig 2 Mawrth 2017.                                              |
| M. E. Punter,       | Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfô, CF5 6AA.                                              |



Cabin crew students in the 'classroom in the sky' – a Boeing 737 fuselage at ICAT.

Taylor Wimpey

Cowbridge  
taylorwimpey.co.uk/darrenfarm

Please come and meet us to view and have an input into the detailed proposals for Darren Farm, Cowbridge.

We always try to keep local communities informed as we prepare and make our planning applications.

Taylor Wimpey is intending to apply for the approval of reserved matters for its detailed plans at Darren Farm, Cowbridge, Vale of Glamorgan.



Come and meet us from:

12pm – 7.30pm on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at The Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall, High St, Cowbridge CF71 7DD

Details correct at time of going to press.

## THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL

(CROSS COMMON ROAD, DINAS POWYS PART))

(ROAD CLOSURE) (TEMPORARY) ORDER 2017

- On 2nd March 2017 the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), made an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below:
- The Order will be known as "The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys (Part)) (Road Closure) (Temporary) Order 2017 and shall come into operation on 6th March 2017.

### SCHEDULE 1

- No person shall cause or permit a motor vehicle to proceed in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

### SCHEDULE 2

- |                   |                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Location</b>   | Cross Common Road, Dinas Powys between its junction with the A4055 Cardiff Road and its junction with Wellwood Drive.                   |
| <b>Reason</b>     | To allow for the removal of the bridge deck from the old bridge over the Cadoxton River.                                                |
| <b>Duration</b>   | From 6th March 2017 for a maximum period of 18 Months.                                                                                  |
| <b>Alt. Route</b> | Diversions for traffic will be available via the new road junction off Cardiff Road located to the South of Cross Common Road junction. |
| <b>NB:</b>        | Pedestrian access shall be maintained via the existing footbridge. Dated this 2nd day of March 2017.                                    |
| M. E. Punter,     | Director of Environment & Housing Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA.                                                 |



# KNIGHTS



## ESTATE AGENTS • CHARTERED SURVEYORS

**THINK PROPERTY!  
THINK KNIGHTS.**  
**01446 700222**

### RESIDENTIAL



**Lakeside, Barry - £425,000**  
Four bedroom semi detached residence situated on the Knap. Entrance porch, Hallway, Lounge/dining room, Family room, Conservatory, Kitchen/breakfast room. Family bathroom, UPVC DG and GCH. Front and rear garden. Small driveway and secure carport.



**Romilly Park Road - £390,000**  
Five bedroom semi. Entrance porch, Hallway. Three reception rooms. En suite, shower room and family bathroom. Loft space, UPVC DG, GCH. Enclosed gardens.



**Whitehouse, The Knap, Barry - £349,000**  
Two bedroom mid link residence on the edge of The Old Harbour. Entrance hallway. Living room, Kitchen, Cloakroom, Family bathroom and en suite. UPVC DG, GCH. Enclosed rear garden. Panoramic views. EPC rating: C.



**Colcot Road, Barry - £349,950**  
Extended, three double bedroom detached residence. Architectural plans for a double storey extension. Kitchen with integral dishwasher and washer/dryer. Dining room. Shower room, family bathroom. Boarded attic space, GCH, UPVC. Large garden, driveway, garage. EPC: D.



**Nant Talwg Way, Barry - £299,950**  
Four bedroom detached. Hallway, Lounge open to dining room. Downstairs w/c. Fitted kitchen with integrated appliances. Family bathroom. Shower room, UPVC DG. Front and rear garden with driveway. Garage with utility area, and remote door. EPC rating: D.



**Fontygary Road, Rhoose - £249,950**  
Three double bedroom semi. Lounge, Dining room. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Study. Downstairs cloakroom. Bathroom and separate w/c. UPVC DG, GCH. Gardens to front and rear. Large driveway. Garage. No chain.



**Southesk Place, Barry - £209,950**  
Three bedroom semi detached property in a cul de sac location. Hallway, downstairs w/c. Lounge, dining room. Fitted kitchen, shower room, UPVC DG, GCH. Forecourt and south facing rear garden. (Viewing highly recommended).



**Tynewydd Road, Barry - £195,000**  
Three bedroom semi detached. Entrance porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining room, Sitting room, Kitchen. Family bathroom to first floor. Enclosed rear garden, GCH. Viewing highly recommended.



**Brookfield Avenue, Barry - £179,950**  
Two bedroom semi detached bungalow. Entrance porch, Living room, Kitchen/dining room, Utility room, Family bathroom and separate cloakroom. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. UPVC DG, GCH. Driveway/garage. EPC rating: D.



**Earl Crescent, Barry - £139,950**  
Three bedroom end link property. Entrance porch. Open plan living room. Kitchen. Bathroom with separate w/c. Enclosed rear garden. Property benefiting from UPVC DG and GCH. EPC rating: E. NO CHAIN.



**Dovedale Street - £115,000**  
Traditional three bedroom. Entrance porch, Hallway, Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen and bathroom to the ground floor. GCH and partial UPVC DG. Enclosed forecourt and rear garden. NO CHAIN.



**Vere Street, Barry**  
We have three available flats at this property. 2x 2 bedroom and 1x 3 bedroom that have all been recently refurbished to a high standard throughout. Please call for prices.



**Adar Y Mor, Barry Island - £195,000**  
Well presented three bedroom link detached. Entrance hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen/dining room, Bathroom and en suite shower room to master bedroom. UPVC DG, GCH. Enclosed garden. Driveway and garage. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.



**Trinity Street, Barry - £127,500**  
Three bedroom bay fronted property. Entrance porch, Hallway, Lounge through dining room, Kitchen, Ground floor bathroom. Close to Romilly, St Barucs and High Street Primary Schools. EPC rating: TBC. NO CHAIN.



**Amorella House, Barry - £149,995**  
All furniture included. Two double bedroom top floor duplex apartment. Hallway, Lounge with French doors to balcony. Modern fitted kitchen/breakfast room with kitchen appliances. Bathroom and bedroom. Spiral staircase. Master bedroom, shower room, UPVC DG, EHI. Two parking spaces. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



**Jenner Road, Barry - £209,950**  
Three bedroom, bay front residence. Entrance porch, Hallway. Open plan living room/kitchen fitted 2016. Modern white bathroom suite, UPVC DG, GCH. Enclosed gardens to front and rear. Garage. New roof in 2015. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.



**Ffordd Cwm Cidi, Barry - £294,995**  
Four bedroom detached situated in Woodlands Residential Estate, Barry Island. Double garage. Kitchen/breakfast room, Utility room. Downstairs w/c. Family bathroom and en suite to master bedroom. UPVC DG, GCH, Rear garden, Driveway and garage. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



**St Osyth Court, Barry - £156,950**  
Two bedroom apartment enjoying panoramic views across Barry Island. Lounge/dining room with access to balcony. Kitchen, Bathroom, UPVC DG, GCH. Well maintained communal gardens. EPC rating: C. NO CHAIN.



**Waters Edge, Barry - £129,950**  
Well presented one bedroom, second floor apartment. Lounge, Kitchen, Shower room. Open plan living room and fitted kitchen with appliances. Modern bathroom, DG, EHI. Video door entry system and intruder alarm. Secure, gated allocated parking. EPC Rating: D. NO CHAIN.



**Lower Morel Street, Barry - £115,000**  
Three bedroom bay fronted property. Entrance hallway, Lounge, Dining room, Kitchen, Ground floor bathroom, UPVC DG, GCH. Rear garden. Forecourt. EPC rating: E. OFFERED FOR SALE WITH NO CHAIN.

### COMMERCIAL



**12 York Place - £12,000 Per Annum**  
Opportunity to lease suite of six offices plus board room set over two floors. Floor Area Approx 101m/108'ft. Kitchen and toilet facilities. Two allocated parking spaces. Low maintenance courtyard. Flexible terms.



**Unit 15 Palmers Vale Business centre - £365,000**  
The property is located on a secure multi-unit business centre. Internal area 16,000 SQ FT (537.7 m²) with large surface concrete yard that is fully enclosed with palisade fencing and two entrances.



**Rear Of Old Barclays Bank, Barry - £12,000 Per Annum**  
RARE TO THE MARKET... An opportunity to lease the rear of The Old Barclays Bank on Broad Street. Unit comprising: ground floor warehouse and first floor with plant/offices suites. The premises were designed and built as a high security depots previously used by the Bank as a Bullion Centre. Various security precautions are therefore designed into the structure. Unit benefits from ample parking spaces. VIEWING RECOMMENDED.



**Wenvoe Terrace, Barry - £450 Per CM**  
One bedroom ground floor garden flat. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Electric cooker and fridge. Wardrobes to bedroom.



**Unit 1b Palmers Vale Business centre - £15,000 Per Annum**  
An opportunity to let a furnished ground floor suite of open plan offices. Parking facilities. Main office area, three private offices, board room, kitchen area and rest room. Total floor area approximately: 183m/ 2,000 ft. For further information or to arrange a viewing please call 01446 701333.



**Melrose Street, Gospel Hall, Barry - £600 Per CM**  
Two bedroom first floor apartment. Unfurnished. Lounge. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Bathroom. Ensuite shower room. Rear enclosed garden. Gas central heating. Double Glazing.

**LETTINGS  
01446 701333**

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KNIGHTS**  
**Licenced by  
Rent Smart  
Wales**

You can be fully confident in our expertise and hassle-free service. Knights Lettings Ltd fully comply with the new code of practice and is licensed to act as your agent for all letting and property management work.

**Heritage Drive, Cardiff  
£750 Per CM**

Three bedroom semi-detached house. Driveway and garage. Living room/dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Utility room. Downstairs cloakroom. Family bathroom. En suite shower room. Rear garden. Available for viewings now and occupation 1st April 2017.

**Bell Street, Barry  
£625 Per CM**

Three bedroom mid terrace house. Unfurnished. Through living room/dining room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Upstairs bathroom. Gas central heating. Double glazed. Enclosed rear garden. Close to Romilly School. Easy access to the train station.

**Sea Point, Barry  
£500 Per CM**

One bedroom top floor flat. Unfurnished. Fitted kitchen/diner. Bedroom with fitted wardrobe. Bathroom. Living room. Stunning sea views. Electric heating. Double glazed. Communal car parking.

**Glan-y-Mor, Y Rhodfa, Barry  
£650 Per CM**

Two bedroom unfurnished apartment. Unfurnished. Good size living room. Fitted kitchen with oven and hob. Family bathroom with shower. En suite shower room. Gas central heating. Balcony overlooking the Waterfront. Close to the train station. Allocated parking space.

**Maritime House, Barry  
£575 Per CM**

Two double bedrooms. First floor apartment. Unfurnished. Outside terrace. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Bathroom. Living room. Double glazed. Electric heating. Close to train station & town centre. No pets. No smokers. No DSS.

**Wenvoe Terrace, Barry  
£450 Per CM**

One bedroom ground floor garden flat. Open plan living area/fitted kitchen. Electric cooker and fridge. Wardrobes to bedroom.

Unfurnished. Decorated to high standard. En suite shower room. Double glazed and electric heating. Small rear garden with sea views. Water rates are included in the rent.

# 'Welsh schools have been under-represented at Large Hadron Collider' says AM

CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, on the Franco-Swiss border, near Geneva, is home to the Large Hadron Collider, the world's largest particle accelerator.

The Ogmore AM, Huw Irranca-Davies, was part of a delegation that recently visited the site, along with scientists from Wales involved in related scientific projects.

The delegation focused on the role of physics and STEM subjects in education, and the way in which programmes at CERN can link with education to inspire teachers and students.

Following the visit, the AM said: "It was a great experience visiting this impressive facility and hearing about our Welsh scientists' involvement."

"I have written to the headteachers and sixth form faculties in



Huw Irranca-Davies (left) at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, with others including Suzy Davies AM (front).

Ogmore schools to draw their attention to the many programmes run from CERN which can enhance the learning experience for our students, and help to

further inspire our science teachers.

"These programmes include a fully-funded UK and Welsh teacher programme which allows science teachers

to visit CERN and learn directly from the scientists and engineers who work there.

"Schools from Wales have been under-represented on

these programmes in the past, though more and more are now taking up the opportunities."

## 'Tata' means 'Hello dream job' for engineer Kylie!

A 28-YEAR-OLD career in engineering seemed the obvious choice for me."

In September 2006, Kylie decided to do a Level Three BTEC in Aerospace Maintenance at the International Centre for Aircraft Training in Cardiff with a view to using that as a stepping stone into the RAF, but her plans fell by the wayside when she became pregnant in the summer of 2007. As a result, she put her career on hold to bring up her daughter.

Kylie Woodwards left Cowbridge Comprehensive School at 16, after completing her GCSEs, and studying A-levels. After just a few months, Kylie realised that classroom-based learning was not for her and decided to explore different avenues into her preferred career in engineering.

Kylie said: "I've always been a bit of a tomboy. As a child, I was always using my imagination to construct and demolish things so a



"I've always been a bit of a tomboy," said mechanical engineer Kylie Woodwards, who works at Tata Steel.

chance to embark on my off and I'm loving every dream career in minute of it."

mechanical engineering.

After completing the course, Kylie had an opportunity with the Apprenticeship Matching Service to do a Level Three apprenticeship in Mechanical Engineering with Tata Steel in Port Talbot.

She added: "I was so

excited finally to get the

## Maesteg PACT

**LLANGYNWYD** 'Cuppa with a Copper', Thursday, March 2 at Llangynwyd Village Hall from 1pm-2pm.

**LANGEINOR PACT** on Wednesday, March 15 at The Richard Price Centre at 5.30pm.

**MAESTEG EAST/WEST PACT** on Thursday, March 16 at Cwm Calon Day Centre at 6pm.

**PYLE/CORNELLY/CEFN CRIBWR PACT** on Thursday, March 16 at Cornelly Community Centre at 6.30pm.

**ABERKENFIG/PENYFAI PACT** on Monday, March 27 at Smyrna Chapel at 7pm.

**LLANGYNWYD PACT** on Thursday, March 30 at Llangynwyd Village Hall at 7pm.

## Maximus the gentle giant

**MAXIMUS** is an eight-year-old greyhound who is a very sweet, older, dog.

He is a gentle giant who loves nothing more than curling up on the sofa for a snooze.

Maximus must live with another well-established dog already in the home to help with his confidence, he enjoys going for walks with his doggy friends and is fantastic at playing with other dogs.

Maximus would be a great addition to any family and can live with calm children over the age of eight. A definite for any greyhound lover.

To find out more give us a call on 01656 75219 or visit our website.



## OBITUARY – PIERO FAMA

# Cowbridge restaurateur 'brought colour to many lives'

A FAMOUS name from Cowbridge's past has passed away, and a good friend has written the following obituary.

The Reverend Glyn Austin was not a minister when he first met Piero Fama – the restaurateur who brought Basil's to Cowbridge.

In fact, Glyn Austin lived above Basil's and worked there, before taking holy orders in 1990.

As local people will know, Mr Fama sold up and moved away but the Rev Austin stayed in touch and has supplied this obituary of a good friend.

My friend Piero Fama, who passed away last year, was a well-known restaurateur in south Wales during the 1970s and '80s. In 1983, he opened Basil's Brasserie in Cowbridge.

Piero hailed from Taormina in Sicily. He arrived in London during the swinging sixties and worked for some time at the legendary Hungry Horse on Fulham Road.

Piero was full of wonderful, and sometimes racy stories about the customers at The Hungry Horse. In the very early '70s, Piero and his family opened The Harvesters



The late Piero Fama.

in what was then a distinctly unfashionable part of Cardiff.

The Harvesters in Pontcanna Street, modelled partly on the success of The Hungry Horse, proved to be an incredibly successful venture.

When I worked there in the mid-'70s, the restaurant was listed in the Good Food Guide and it was buzzing! It was a magnet for local people and visiting celebrities.

Whilst Piero was living and working in Pontcanna he learned Welsh – he was a gifted linguist, and would make a point of welcoming Welsh speakers to the restaurant in their mother tongue.

He also appeared on Welsh language television demonstrating some of his recipes. Indeed, you could argue that Piero was a forerunner of the celebrity chef. That thought would have made him laugh, I am sure.

Basil's Brasserie in

Cowbridge, like the Harvesters before it in the 1970s, was a busy restaurant. The restaurant soon had a loyal core of regulars.

Piero shared the cooking in those days but his attention to detail and his wide range of culinary influences were always apparent on the menu.

Piero was one of life's characters. He was proud of his Sicilian roots but the culture of his adopted home was also a source of great interest.

Piero enjoyed opera, played squash and loved good food and red wine. He was well-read and a keen observer of the human condition.

He would roar with laughter at some of the idiocies of modern life. You couldn't call Piero politically correct, but he could be very kind and thoughtful.

Piero the restaurateur brought colour to many lives. He was fun to work with.

He retired to Barnstaple in north Devon with his wife Val. He died last year after a short illness. Piero's zest for life, his love of red wine and opera remained, Val informs me, unabated.

Rest in peace my friend!  
Rev Glyn Austin,  
Llangennith Vicarage.

## Black ice causes traffic chaos around the area

THERE was traffic chaos in the Vale on Tuesday morning (February 28) after motorists were caught out by black ice.

"Apprenticeships represent one of the most practical and effective ways that businesses can access quality training and raise their skills levels.

"Apprenticeships enable employees to develop higher level technical and professional skills to train on the job and develop the job specific skills employers need to keep up with industry changes and demand."

"The B4270 Llantwit Major Road was also closed in both directions for a short period to allow for recovery work and removal of debris, following another collision on the Llantwit Major roundabout near Meadow Vale Nursery."

The local policing inspector for Penarth and the Vale of Glamorgan, Gary Smart, believed to have been caused by cars hitting black ice.

"In one incident, a motorcyclist was injured after losing control of his bike near the Pentre Meyrick junction of the A48.

"Following the collision, the A48 was closed between Cowbridge and Culverhouse Cross by the Vale Council Highways department, to allow for gritting to take place.

Speaking on Tuesday, said: "Conditions on many of the roads in the Vale were treacherous this morning."

"Black ice is very difficult to see until it is often too late and we encourage motorists to take extra care, slow down and allow extra time for their journeys."

## Train with BAVO

BRIDGEND Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) is holding an 'Introduction to raising your own funds' training on March 16, from 10am - 1pm in their office in Maesteg.

The course demonstrates the importance of using a marketing approach to help with planning any fundraising, emphasises good practice in the management, recruiting, supporting and developing of volunteers, and dealing with sponsors.

Organised by BAVO, cost per person is £25 for BAVO members, £35 for BAVO non-members and £50 for those not in the non-voluntary sector. To book, visit the training pages of [www.bavo.org.uk](http://www.bavo.org.uk) or call 01656 810400.

## LOW COST HOME OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

### ST DAVIDS MEADOW, COLWINSTON

- One, two-bedroom mid link house for sale £133,000\* (\*70% of market value)**
- Two, two-bedroom end link houses for sale £140,000\* (\*70% of market value)**

Hafod Housing Association in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council has three new two-bedroom homes for sale, available at St Davids Meadow, Colwinston.



The open market value of these homes start at £190,000 and Hafod are selling 70% of this which is £133,000.

Priority will be given to people with a local connection, but we welcome applications from people who live and / or work in the Vale. Eligibility criteria apply.

Are you a first-time buyer?  
Want to own your own home?  
Unable to afford market prices?  
Look no further – homeownership could be within reach



### NEW HOMES FOR RENT AT REFLECTIONS @ THE QUAYS, BARRY WATERFRONT

#### Newydd Housing Association together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the new development at Reflections @ The Quays, Barry Waterfront.

Bids are invited from Homes4U members.

- Five, one-bedroom flats
- Five, two-bedroom flats

Amenities include car parking, bin store and bike storage.

No pets. No lift.

- One-bedroom rent £86.35 plus service charge**
- Two-bedroom rent £92.82 plus service charge**



Newydd Housing Association is committed to providing a safe and sustainable environment and will be asking for references and carrying out interviews with prospective tenants to achieve the full potential for this development.



To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at [HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk) or apply in writing to:

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Environment and Housing Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU



Putting your property  
**'OUT IN FRONT'**



**PROPERTIES REQUIRED**  
for Waiting Buyers



**LLANTWIT MAJOR**  
£55,000  
**Nutwalk CF61 1BH**  
TWO BEDROOMS UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING PRIVATE GARDEN  
TOTAL LENGTH 14.6 WIDTH 3.56



**LLANMAES**  
£68,500  
**Millands Park CF61 2XY**  
ONE BEDROOM  
NEW UNIT OPEN VIEWS  
OVER 45S CAN APPLY



**ST ATHAN**  
£107,500  
**Starling Road CF62 4NJ**  
FREEHOLD, TWO BEDROOMS  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
IDEAL FOR FIRST TIME BUYER



**ST ATHAN**  
£122,500  
**Mallory Close CF62 4JJ**  
FREEHOLD, FOUR BEDROOMS  
CONSERVATORY, GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
UPVC DOUBLE GLAZING, IDEAL FAMILY HOME



**EGLWYS BREWYS**  
£129,995  
**Eagle Road CF62 4NR**  
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING, LARGE REAR GARDEN  
OFF ROAD PARKING SPACE IDEAL FAMILY HOME



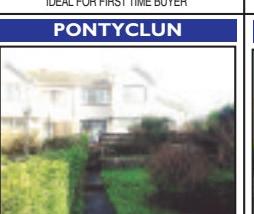
**LLANTWIT MAJOR**  
£195,000  
**Fitzhamon Ave. CF61 1TN**  
FREEHOLD, THREE BEDROOMS, SOUTH FACING  
GARDEN, GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED, EPC - E



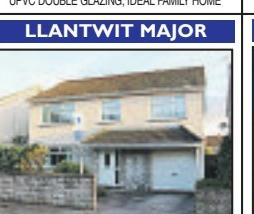
**LLANTWIT MAJOR**  
£249,995  
**Colhugh Park CF61 1RU**  
TWO BEDROOMS, TWO RECEPTION ROOMS  
QUIET CUL DE SAC LOCATION, DOWNSTAIRS,  
WC SHOWER, GARAGE, FREEHOLD



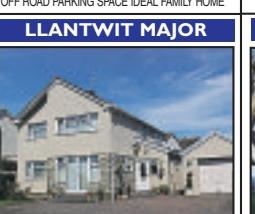
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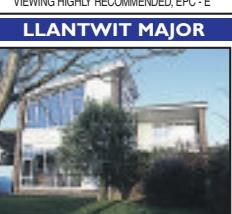
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# Broadway classic musical is brought to life by talented Bridgend Youth Theatre team

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

THE young actors of the Bridgend Youth Theatre (BYT) put on five performances of *Fiddler on The Roof* last week, and standing ovations were par for the course as they told the story of the Jewish community in Russia who were forced to become refugees – a tale that resonated with many of the young people.

*The two girls in the front, Lili Smith and Layla Millar (right) played scary ghosts in the show. In these rehearsal pictures, they are without their stage make up.*





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# Fast start for the Pen-y-Bont Surf Life Saving Club



The Seniors and Masters team at the Welsh Championships.



The Pen-y-Bont Nippers team.

**PEN-Y-BONT** Surf Life Saving Club, based at Ogmore by Sea, got off to a fast start this year.

On January 1, the club hosted its New Year's Day Dip at Ogmore beach and there was a fantastic turn out, considering the cold, wet conditions. More than 50 men, women and children braved the conditions and icy water to celebrate the club's 50th anniversary.

On January 28-29, Pen-y-Bont sent a mixed team to compete in the 2017 Welsh Still Water Championships at the Wales National Swimming pool at Swansea.

The ages of those taking part were from 30

to over 60, with experienced and new competitors who helped the team to win the Senior and Masters Welsh 2017 Championship. The team was supported by friends and families over the two days.

The following weekend, the Pen-y-Bont Nippers, aged from seven to 13, were in action at the same venue, and finished sixth overall in the Wales Championships.

In early March, Pen-y-Bont Surf Life Saving Club will have an open day for existing members to renew their membership and welcome anyone who may be interested in becoming a member.

## Solemn start to Phoenix game

PRIOR to kick off, Pencoed Phoenix and Pontardulais Ladies observed a minute's silence in memory of Welsh international Elli Norkett, whose life was taken in a road accident over the weekend; our thoughts go out to the young player's family.

Phoenix dominated the early scrums against the visitors, Pontardulais, a young development side at this senior level.

Phoenix opened the scoring through their backs however moving the ball wide through Rhian Nokes and Lauren Aitken for Leanne Burnell to race over, Nokes adding the extras.

Phoenix soon got a second, Zoe Reeves doing well to win the race for the touchdown following a Nokes kick.

Phoenix again moved the ball wide and Burnell gave the scoring pass to young Megan Batacan for her first senior Phoenix try.

Skipper Katie Murphy then initiated the next try before reappearing in the move to run in from 30 metres, which Nokes converted.

Phoenix were now playing with confidence and Charlotte Mundy took on the defence from halfway and an arcing run saw her score at the posts.

Mundy converted and Phoenix led 31-0 at the interval despite the plucky visitors' efforts.

Murphy was enjoying one of her best games, again breaking away from around halfway before linking with her backs put Phoenix into the visitors' 22, and sustained pressure saw Megan Whittaker break and the looping Megan Griffiths raced around under the posts, which Nokes converted.

The visitors then got a deserved score much to their delight, the young side battling hard.

Caitlin Smith then showed her considerable potential with a strong run from 22 metres out to score at the posts, which Mundy again converted.

At the final whistle the young visitors, undeterred by the final 45-5 scoreline, went sliding through the half way line mud together!

For the visitors no 8 Sioned Young was chosen best forward, with Bethan Jones best back. For Phoenix, Charlotte Mundy picked as best forward with Rhianydd Morgan as best back.

Pencoed Phoenix under-15s also enjoyed success on the day with a 46-0 win at Gowerton. Jess Tuck, after playing only one month of rugby, was chosen as Phoenix player of the match! TR



Jack Halloran (front row, left) and Ospreys teammates.

## BT boost for wheelchair rugby team

THE Ospreys junior wheelchair rugby team are to benefit from a new wheelchair specifically designed for rugby thanks to the support of BT Cymru Wales.

Funds were raised to buy the new chair, which typically costs between £1800 and £2400, after BT donated a series of rugby-related gifts for a raffle held by the Ospreys junior wheelchair rugby team.

More than £1,300 was raised from the raffle which will go towards buying the much needed new chair for the team. Bridgend-based BT engineer Neil Halloran, whose son Jack has cerebral palsy and enjoys playing for the Ospreys junior wheelchair rugby team, explained: "Wheelchair rugby is a fantastic sport, but obviously some of the equipment required can

be a bit expensive. There's a big family feel to the club as a lot of the parents, like myself, and volunteers give up their time to help run the club on a day to day basis. As a club, we aim to give the children a platform to express themselves, gain confidence, learn core values and be part of a rugby family and participate in regular exercise."

"The hospitality tickets and signed shirt donated by BT made a huge difference and I know that my son Jack and his team-mates along with the other parents are delighted with the money we were able to raise."

"I don't think it would have been possible to reach the amount we did without the generosity of BT and its continued support of rugby and wheelchair rugby."

Alwen Williams, regional director for BT Cymru Wales, said:

"Giving something back to the community is something that's very important to us in BT."

"Our support of the four rugby regions goes much further than simply sponsoring the jersey or stadium and being able to help the Ospreys junior wheelchair rugby team is a reflection of our commitment to the community."

Based at Llandarcy Academy of Sport, the Ospreys junior wheelchair rugby team, who work closely with the Ospreys regional rugby team, are the first of their kind in Wales and regularly play against teams from across the UK, including Bristol, Northampton, Stoke and Leicester.

BT has been a principal sponsor of Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby for a number of years and supports areas such as the BT Youth Programme and the BT National Tournament. TR

## Keira joins Team Wales for the Dance World Cup

Keira Durston.



**KEIRA** Durston, aged 11, from Bridgend has qualified to represent Wales at the Dance World Cup for the second year running.

Keira, who goes to Bryntirion Comprehensive School, gained sixth place in the world for her acrobatic solo last year and gained a point for Team Wales.

This year, she will be performing solo routines in Acrobatics and Pointe Ballet in Germany in June.

Keira was recently awarded the 'BridgeFM Young Achievers Performing Arts and Music' award after being nominated by her dance teacher Lauren McCabe.

She trains every day and has dance training with the Sarah Burnell School of Dance, and Performing Arts training with Stagecoach, starting at the age of four.

Keira qualified her Pointe Ballet Solo with Nicola Peros Ballet in Porthcawl's Grand Pavilion."

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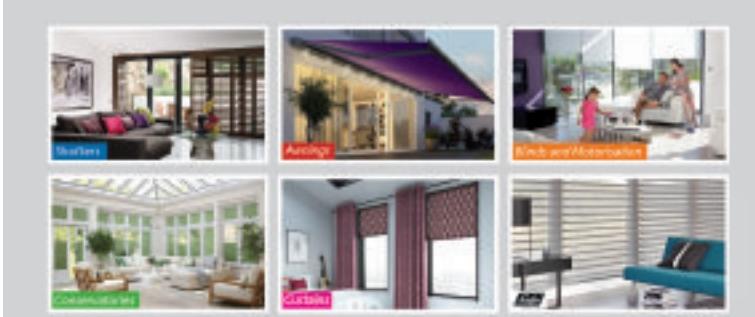
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## Family Notices

**SMITH**  
Isobel (Linda)

Suddenly after a short illness at Llandough Hospital on 21 February, Isobel (Linda), aged 62 years of Barry. Loving partner of Patrick. A loved mother of Ian and the late Andrew, cherished grandmother of Brandon and Andrew, beloved sister of Marion, Norma, Kay, Janice and Stewart.

*Linda will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare Gladstone Road, Barry. Funeral service and committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, where family and friends please meet on Wednesday, March 8 at 11am. Family flowers only, if desired donations may be handed to the funeral director after the funeral for Marie Curie Holme Tower, Bridgeman Road, Penarth.

**MORRIS**  
John Rees

Peacefully at Llandough hospital on 22nd February, aged 89 years. Loving husband to the late Margaret, loving father to Colin, Glyn and Ruth, father-in-law to Lorraine and Sally. Loving grandfather to Rebecca, Eleri, Katie, Ieuan and Rhys, and great grandfather to Oliver.

*John will be sadly missed by all who knew him.*

Resting at Park Funeral Directors, Barry until the service on Monday, 6th March at Holy Trinity Church, Barry at 12pm, followed by the committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium at 1pm. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, may be sent to The British Lung Foundation.



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**DAVIES**  
Pauline Nancy

Suddenly passed away at her home on 24 February 2017. Pauline, much loved wife of John, mother of Kirsty, loving grandmother to Daisy, Sophie and Katie and great grandmother to Noah.

Resting at W.A. Brown & Son, College Street, Llantwit Major until the funeral service in Cochurch Crematorium on Tuesday, 7 March at 10.30am. Donations may be made to Marie Curie c/o the funeral home (cheques only please).

**DAVID**  
John Anthony

The family wish to announce the sad passing of John Anthony David (JAD) aged 45, on February 11 at home.

*He will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.*

**LONG**  
Lorna Margaret  
(of Llantwit Major)

Passed away on 18th February 2017. Beloved wife of Geoff and a dearly loved mum of Martin, Paul and Alison. Gran to Alex, Steffan, Catrin, Sarah-Jane, Ollie. Mother-in-law of Eleri, Debbie and Ian.

Funeral service to be held on Tuesday, 7th March at Cochchurch Crematorium at 1.45pm. Family flowers only please, donations, if desired, to Cancer Research, Velindre Hospital, Velindre Road, Whitchurch, Cardiff, CF14 2TL.

**HOLTAM**  
Vernon

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on 21st February 2017, Vernon, aged 96 years, beloved husband of the late Maisie, loved father of Rosemary, Brian and Helen, father-in-law of Martin, Gill and Gerwyn, cherished grandfather and great grandfather.

*Vernon will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.*

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the Service on Friday, 10th March at All Saints Church at 3pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Cancer Research Cymru c/o the funeral director.

**DENNIS**  
Valerie

On February 17, at Llandough Hospital, Val of Barry. Beloved wife of the late Roy, dear sister-in-law of Violet, and loving auntie of Louise, Gill and Jeff.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Thursday March 9. Service and cremation 2pm at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to Ty Hapus c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

**CORP****Patricia Jane (née Morris)**

Peacefully on 20th February 2017, Patricia, beloved wife of the late Eric. Much loved mum of Melanie, Justin and Caroline, loved grandma of Anwen, Taran, Evan, Freddy, Emily and Iestyn.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, 10th March 2017 at 1pm. Flowers may be sent to the funeral home. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Ty Hafan c/o the funeral director.

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# Penarth Hockey Club news round-up

**IT WAS A CASE OF WIN, LOSE AND DRAW FOR Penarth Hockey Club's three active sides at the weekend, but each remains in control of their own destiny as the promotion race in their respective GoCre8 leagues intensifies.**

## PENARTH 5, BRISTOL UWE 3

With the Conference North schedule heading into the final straight, Penarth faced the first in a run of fixtures to the finish line with revenge on the agenda as they looked to reverse one of only two defeats suffered this season.

Bristol UWE were the visitors to Stanwell, and found Penarth back to their brilliant best in the early stages, the home side playing with an intensity their opponents could not handle.

Consequently, the goals soon began to flow, Chris Baker opening the Bears' account as he found himself one on one in the 'D' before committing the keeper and coolly slotting the ball into the bottom corner.

Minutes later, the goalscorer turned architect, creating panic in the UWE defence before finding the in-form David Joyce, who smartly rounded the keeper and produced a fine finish from a tight angle.

The Bears should have been in full control but, as the game settled down, UWE began to warm to the challenge and started to dictate the play more and more as Penarth abandoned their intensity and communication as tiredness crept in.

After a period of pressure, during which the home side was grateful to goalkeeper Simon Conforti for keeping the score at 2-0, Penarth's resistance finally broke following a barrage of penalty corners.

Hunting the green-shirted midfielders in twos, UWE sprung their trap, turning the ball over in the final third and getting through on goal before making no mistake to draw a goal back and finish the half strongly.

Penarth were definitely the happier to hear the half-time whistle and take the opportunity to regroup, and the break immediately paid dividends as, rallying to player-coach Ben Croxall's battle cry behind the efforts of midfielder Joe Thomas, they rediscovered their former intensity to score straight from the restart.

Using the Bears' press to force the UWE defence into a mistake in a dangerous area, Baker fed the

## The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

**WE OPEN WITH NEWS THAT Dinas Powys Athletic have withdrawn from the league and so their record has been expunged.**

A sad end for a club that saw successive promotions since their inception.

Dinas' departure gives the Premier Division a slightly different look as their results for or against do not count now.

Only six games were played across the three divisions this weekend with the weather postponing six other games.

In the Premier Division Rhoose continued their fantastic form with a tight 2-1 victory over Penarth Town. The result sees Rhoose draw level with Vale United at the top of the table, however, Rhoose have played five games more.

Elsewhere in the Premier, St Athan took all three points at Maslin Park with a 3-1 over Island Marine, Josh Morgan (two) and Jordan Mortimore scored.

Tynwydd picked up a much-needed win as they dispatched bottom side

turnover ball to Andrew Willemite, who calmly lifted it over defender's stick and, once into the 'D', chipped the still bouncing projectile over the on-rushing keeper from an acute angle.

With their tails up once again, Penarth would pull the same trick immediately after the restart, forcing the shell-shocked students into another turnover, with Baker this time backing himself to score as he squeezed through to defenders and fired home on his backhand to put the home side into a commanding 4-1 lead.

Incredibly, Penarth continued to make hay while the sun made a rare appearance, adding a third strike of the half before their own defence had even been called into action.

This time the goal came from a set-piece, with Croxall firing low to the keepers left from a penalty corner, the netminder unable to sort his feet out before the ball had hit the backboard and all but seal the victory with just five minutes on the second-half clock.

As suddenly as the Penarth blitz had started, however, it was brought to an abrupt end with captain Tom Haran receiving harsh 10 minutes yellow card 'sin bin', which allowed the students some respite from the onslaught.

Pulling one goal back while holding the numerical advantage, UWE would go on to add a third late in the half, but never truly threatened to catch the Bears, who relied on two truly remarkable spells of hockey to win the game comfortably.

Penarth's progression requires them to produce the type of hockey which produced five goals in those two short spells carried over 50, 60 or even 70 minutes.

However, with another home victory in the bag and results elsewhere going their way again, the Bears will take comfort from further increasing their lead at the top of the division and inching closer to the winning line.

**CARDIFF MEDICS A 1, PENARTH A 1**  
It was a different story for Penarth's second XI, who travelled to Talybont Sports Complex to face Cardiff Medics with half of their usual team either injured or unavailable to play but, facing bottom-of-the-table opposition, the Bears remained confident of an away victory.

In the opening exchanges, however, it became apparent that this Cardiff Medics team was not the same second string that had been comfortably despatched in the reverse fixture, as the home side played hockey far above their lowly De Cymru 1 position and dominated possession.

In an open first half, in which both sides had

## Barry and District Ladies Skittle League

**LATEST RESULTS FOR THE Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing February 13 are as follows:**

First division: SV Gals (V Pycroft 31) 309;

Space Finders (A Norman 30) 301; Pila

Palas (S Potter 32) 332,

Red Admiral (S Romans 34) 320; Family and Friends (G Loveless, J Jones 24) 242, Bakers

Dozen (K James 33) 259; Barry Stars (A Morgan 34) 326, Family

Affair (G Taylor 30) 321; Coppers (D Nesbitt 33) 328, Bobby's Girls (G Toogood 35) 304;

Colcot Ladies (H Edwards 29) 259, Cigar

Ladies (A McCarthy 29) 249; Special Angels (T Jones, P Grisdale 26)

Allsorts (R Dawe 27) 246.

Second division:

Castle Bandits (S King, B Evans 26) 244,

Clickies (E Walters 28) 254; Roller Coasters (C Thomas 22) 215,

Breakaways (V Martin 25) 223; Cad Con Fillies (A Beattie 28) 240, After

Eights (P Bryant 27) 196; Witchill Widows (L Spyrou 40) 288, Fallen

Angels (C Jones 33) 334; Rhoose Starlights (D Stradling 29) 265, Castaways (J Tobin, J Byrne, G Drew 25) 239; Airways Angels (A Crook, L Thomas 25) 235, S V Lights (P Beadle 26) 202.

Third division: Little Devils (J Jones, S Evans 27) 235, La Belles (C Knight, S Curtis, R Clegg, S Webber 23)

224; Rebels (R Sutton 29) 250, Rugby Triers (S Cobbill 30) 237;

Challengers (B Griffiths 39) 324, Witches (S Beer 30) 247; Uptown Girls (J Cosslett 26) 248,

Dolly Mixtures (E Peckham 27) 226; SV

Ladies (S Humphries 30) 247, Etcetera (C Mackintosh 31) 261;

Westenders (M Davies 25) 236, Twilights (T Davies 26) 248.

Fourth division: Nite

Outers (J Baker 26) 214,

Liberals (A Boyd 26) 163; Aristocrats (T Weston 27) 209, Witchill

Wanderers (C Reynolds 24) 187; Socialites (D Marks 32) 268, Odd

Breakaways (V Martin 25) 223; Cad Con Fillies (A Beattie 28) 240, After

Eights (P Bryant 27) 196; Witchill Widows (L Spyrou 40) 288, Fallen

chances, the Medics were largely held out by strong Penarth defending from a makeshift back four that included the unfamiliar faces of Nick Pratt and Joe Wells, both playing their first game for the A team this season.

When the defence, in which Jamie Davison turned in a strong performance, was breached, the Medics continued to be thwarted by goalkeeper Adam Putt, who made several fine saves to ensure that the scores remained level for almost the entire period.

Penarth, however, also looked dangerous when they managed to get the ball into the final third, and Jack Jopson and Richard Baker both tested the Medics keeper several times before the latter broke the deadlock, deceiving the keeper with a reverse stick strike at the near post shortly before the half-time whistle.

At the interval, the Bears knew they had to find a way to keep possession if they were to hold onto their slender lead, but the fact that they were missing so many regular players meant that it was difficult to do so, with a lack of cohesion very apparent when going forward.

The persistent turnovers allowed Cardiff to attack at will, and the Bears' defence did extremely well to hold out until the final ten minutes, only for the home side to get a deserved equaliser, breaching the resistance with extra men and firing home from close range.

The final few minutes saw more of the same, with the Medics looking increasingly likely to snatch a second, but it was Penarth who came closest to winning the game, with Baker and Sam Chick linking up on the counter-attack before Chick's effort sneaked just wide of the near post.

A share of the spoils was not the result the Bears wanted – or needed – but the fact that they dug deep

to secure a point with an under-strength side keeps them in the top two overall by merit of goal difference, and gives them the narrowest advantage in the hunt for promotion with only four games remaining.

**PENARTH B 0, SWANSEA UNIVERSITY C 7**  
A slightly below strength Penarth third string took on De Cymru 3 champions-elect Swansea University at Stanwell knowing that an unlikely win would confirm their own promotion behind the student side.

However, this was not to be as the visitors, themselves very much at full strength, produced some of the best hockey seen at this level all season to deservedly take a comfortable win and leave the Bears to put the champagne back on ice for at least another fortnight as they head into a bye week prior to another tricky encounter with Gwent on the second weekend of March.

*Three Penarth teams are in action again this weekend, with the first XI travelling to Bristol University for a late morning fixture, while both the second and fourth XIs enjoy home encounters with Swansea City (1.45pm start) and Gwent (3.30pm start) respectively.*

Penarth Hockey Club always welcomes new, old and returning players, umpires, supporters, friends and helpers regardless of age and ability. When the regular season resumes, training will take place on Wednesdays at Stanwell School, with the juniors on the pitch between 6.15pm and 7.15pm and the seniors between 7.00pm and 8.15pm.

Anyone interested in joining the club at senior or youth level can contact club secretary Dave Stevens (d\_stevens81@hotmail.co.uk) for further information.

CL

## Farmers defy Doris as 80mph gusts make things difficult!



Raymond Thomas drives off!



Winning golfers with sponsor Mr Glyn Watts-Jones.

**THE captain's drive-in for Raymond Thomas, the recently installed captain of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society, took place last Thursday at Southerndown Golf Club when 42 members assembled at the first tee to witness the traditional opening shot of the new golfing season.**

Gale force winds reaching a reported 80 miles per hour failed to deter the contestants and it was not surprising the majority of the balls that failed to return home were carried on the strong winds heading towards the Bristol Channel.

Golf bags and electric trolleys being blown over was a regular feature and despite the hazardous conditions caused by Storm Doris, everyone completed their round.

Not surprisingly 28 stableford points was good enough for Bryan Wadham to collect the Southerndown Cup from the day's generous sponsor, Mr Glyn Watts-

Jones. Runner-up, also with 28 points but an inferior back nine, was Gareth Perkins with John Cains taking third place with 27 points, one more than Chris Watson who finished in fourth place.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Dai John, Aubrey Thomas and Julian Kelly.

Rhydian Harris, with 29 points and playing off a handicap of five, won the visitor's prize with David Evans finishing runner-up with 24 points.

Mark Dowling collected the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge sponsored longest drive prize when hitting an enormous drive assisted by 'Doris' down the sixth hole and Tony McCarthy returned home with the Premier Turf sponsored bottle of whiskey when guessing 59 balls would not make it back to the clubhouse.

This raised £86 for the Bridgend branch of The Stroke Association.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 30 at Ashburnham Golf Club, sponsored by Cowbridge solicitors Glamorgan Law.

T.McC

## Under-13s take heart from win

**THE LLANTWIT Major under-13 rugby team had some tough matches over the previous few weeks and the coaches have been working hard with the squad to boost their confidence and improve their technical skills.**

The team was looking forward to the match against Llantrisant, to show their coaches that they had listened and the hard work in training had been paying off.

The match started with strong attacking moves and good tackling from the Llantrisant side. The forwards were determined to make their presence felt and the backs wanted the chance to use the moves and skills that they had been practising.

The Llantrisant side soon saw the benefits of all their hard work and throughout the game they dominated with their strong forward work and

quick back moves. They were able to use their strength to break through in the close contact work and also use their pace to chip the ball through the backs' hands to put players into space.

Tries for the team were scored by Sam (two), Will (two), Josh (two) and Iestyn (two). Everyone worked hard to keep the pressure on the Llantrisant side who were only able to get over the try line twice throughout the whole game.

The match finished with a great result for the home team and a score of 40-12. While the team know that there is more to do this was a great confidence boost and proof that working hard in training brings results on the pitch.

*Squad: Ioan, Dafydd, Jaydon, Dan C, Dan F, Sam, Tom, Nathan, Aaron, Will, Kyle, Luke, Lewis M, Lewis I, Dylan, Iestyn, Josh.*

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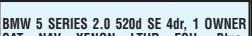
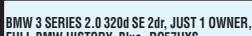
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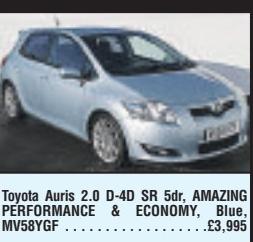
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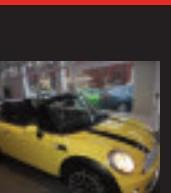
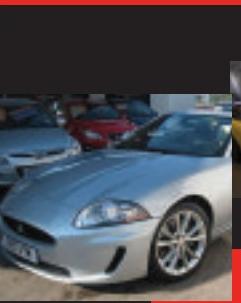
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# Close-run game for Bridgend Athletic

**A NARROW defeat in this rearranged fixture between Bridgend Athletic and Aberavon Quins, played in good conditions, has probably consigned the Athletic to fighting for the minor honours in Division 1 West Central this season.**

There is now little prospect of winning the division and progressing to the play-offs for a speedy return to the Championship and the word for the remainder of the season is surely to concentrate on developing the young talent available at the club to good effect for the future.

The home side had the better of the early exchanges and the Athletic front row of

Wayne Fooks, Matt Muir and hooker Lee Murphy were under pressure at the scrums. After 10 minutes or so Murphy had checked an opponent and was sent to the sin-bin as Quins outside half Mark Sheppard opened the scoring with a well-struck penalty. With one man short, the visitors had to defend for their lives and solid work by captain Ben Howe and former captain Sean Williams kept the Quins at bay. On Murphy's return the Athletic raised their game and some strong runs by flanker Johnny Howard and locks Chris John and Jon Stoker had the Athletic on the front foot. When the Athletic were penalised for a ruck infringement the Quins loose-head retaliated and was shown a yellow card. The Athletic pressed strongly with

young fly-half Luke Bevan kicking well to the corner but poor control at a lineout allowed the home side to clear. This followed two penalty kicks at goal that were both pushed wide.

Aberavon Quins, in a rare moment of endeavour, counter-attacked and cut through to the Athletic posts where a clear forward pass saved the Bridgend

side, although the pass that started the move looked suspiciously adjacent too.

Nevertheless, with the home pack restored to a full complement the Athletic gave up a penalty at the resulting scrum in front of their posts and Sheppard once again converted to give the home side a lead of 6-0 at half-time.

In the second-half the Ath were intent on moving the ball more and scrum half Aled Thomas tried to bring in his young back-line with

centres Stuart Floyd-Ellis and Tom Jenkins (an 11th hour replacement for Chris Price) carrying the ball determinedly and wings Harry Griffiths and Youth scrum-half Dan James, playing out of position looking to take on their opponents whenever the opportunities arose.

The Quins were kicking deep and another Youth team player Sam Richards was equal to the demands and returned everything with interest or attempted to get his team going forward. Ben Howe made a storming run that eventually led to another penalty attempt that hit

the post. By this time the home team were down to 14 men for another ten minutes with their hooker earning the displeasure of the referee. This meant that their scrum was now

feeling the pressure but the Ath were unable to capitalise as sloppy mistakes, poor ball retention and decision making hampered their play.

Just as the home team was restored to full strength the Athletic exerted some telling pressure and two or three quick picks and drives towards the Quins posts allowed quick ball to be moved quickly left and young Dan James squirmed over for a corner try that Stuart Floyd-Ellis converted from the touchline to give the visitors the lead.

Back came the visitors and pressed hard on the Quins 22 but a ruck

penalty and then an offside call led to Sheppard kicking at goal from 45 metres out. His effort hit the post but an Athletic player was judged to have touched the ball as it bounced into a colleague's hands and another penalty was awarded in front of the posts, from which Sheppard made no mistake to give the home team what was to prove a winning lead.

Despite striving

manfully to claw back the deficit it wasn't the visitors' night and the game finished with the Quins driving the ball to maintain a stranglehold on possession and running out 9-7 winners.

MD



Photos by John Canon.



## Cowbridge Darts League round-up

**ON Tuesday, February 21 a full programme of league matches was played.**

It was an evening of the local derbies. At the Edmondes Arms, the Edmondes C just beat the Edmond A 5-4, while at the Farmers Arms, the Farmers Arms defeated the Hairy Farmers 6-3.

In this game Nigel Thomas (Farmers Arms) hit 103, three-dart-out. This was the third time this season that Nigel has had an out over 100.

It was not a good night for the two teams at the wrong end of the league table.

The Edmondes B beat the Red Lion 9-0 and Llanharry beat the Victoria Inn by the same score.

In the battle for second place the Six Bells Inn 5-4 victory against the Highwayman Inn was not enough for them to regain second spot.

Present league

standings, after 18

PJT

CEFN

Cribwr welcomed league newcomers

Carnetown FC to Cae Gof on a very wet and windy Saturday afternoon, with league newcomers entering the league almost three months after everybody else, they

were looking to get games in the bag.

Cefn who were depleted with five of the starting 11 from last week missing with injuries, undoubtedly started the brighter of the two teams and despite a heavy pitch played some lovely football.

The hosts were awarded a penalty after a clever free kick routine saw playmaker Dan Jenkins get brought down in the box. He made no mistakes from 12 yards out to put Cefn ahead and go into the break a goal to the good.

The second half started slowly but Cefn youngster Ioan Clatworthy fired home from 20 yards out, Utilities for sponsoring straight into the top corner. Carnetown were done and Cefn's fitness showed when Adam James completed his brace.

Cefn would like to thank the home support and also Mr Conor Clatworthy of CM Utilities for sponsoring

## Cefn Cribwr blow away Carnetown

corner, to double the lead and score his first senior goal.

The home side were looking to put the visitors to the sword when a breakaway attack saw the visitors nick a goal with a lovely finish to get themselves back in the game.

Cefn calmed down and looked dangerous and it wasn't a surprise when Cefn scored again with Adam James stroking the ball into the net.

The hosts made quick time to increase their lead with a contender for goal of the season from young left back Ross Hooper, who took the ball and shot from 30 yards out, the ball flying into the top corner.

Carnetown were done and Cefn's fitness showed when Adam James completed his brace.

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For further details about the club contact either Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968, John Evans on 01656 880372 or David Newman on 01656 649138.



# SIX NATIONS RUGBY

SCOTLAND 29 WALES 13



## After the England match heroics, an old problem rears its head, as flying Scots show Wales just what to do when opportunity knocks...



*Pictures by the  
Huw Evans Agency.*

ABOVE: The one bright highlight as Liam Williams rounds off a fine Welsh move in the corner, but it was all downhill from there as Scotland took control. Centre, boxed-in George North was given little chance to shine. Far right, the mercurial Duncan Hogg, arm aloft in triumph.



'OCH  
AYE!'

### BACK PAGE COMMENT

by Don John

IN the aftermath of Saturday's shock 13-29 defeat at Murrayfield, with hindsight it was perhaps too much to expect that a Wales team still struggling to settle on a 'new way after Warrenball', could again raise their game to the level and intensity of that heroic display against title favourites England in Cardiff.

However, who could have foreseen the near-complete collapse in a truly abysmal second half that saw the lively Scots rattle up 20 points without reply – and break a cycle of nine successive defeats to Wales since 2008?

That was the Grand Slam year when newly-appointed Wales coach Warren Gatland took charge of the squad, and the following year he recorded the first of four wins in the Scottish capital, ironically by a 13-26 margin.

The Kiwi was there again on Saturday – this time as a spectator in the capacity crowd, to run the rule over likely Six

Nations candidates in his role as head coach for the Lions' summer tour to New Zealand, and the TV cameras showed him looking pensive as red shirts imploded in front of him.

And well he might, for on that performance alone, few of his regular charges had staked a convincing claim to a seat on the plane, while the worrying collapse added fuel to fears that Welsh play overall is on a backward slide from the trophy-filled days of the early Gatland era, and is revealing its old Achilles' heel – wildly inconsistent peaks and troughs – while his attention is turned to Lions' duties.

How else to explain the stark contrast between the magnificent, gutsy display that almost overcame mighty England, and the floundering, error-ridden capitulation in the face of a lesser Scottish challenge just two weeks later?

What had changed to explain this startling inconsistency? Certainly not the team – for caretaker head coach, Robert Howley, had responded to widespread criticism of actions taken from the Welsh bench during the loss to the English, by naming his original starting line-up (with George North returning) for a make or break pivotal game in the battle for the championship.

He was, perhaps, still smarting from the critical fallout over the second-half changes that saw many people's choice for man-of-

the-match, Ross Moriarty, among other key players, taken off, which crucially hit team momentum, and along with a defensive lapse in the dying minutes, arguably cost Wales a famous victory.

Howley insisted that player monitoring during the game had shown the rampaging No 8 was "beginning to tire" following a six-day turnaround since the Italy match in Rome, and they had brought on Taulupe Faletau, recently returned from injury, and with limited game time.

"The England head coach Eddie Jones had emptied his bench to a certain extent, and we needed fresh legs on. The six-day turnaround has an influence on players and we felt we were making the right decisions..."

"It shows our strength in depth," he maintained. Moriarty had deserved to start in a retained Welsh back row to face the Scots: "It puts pressure on Toby, a good pressure...To have a strong bench as we have, is key. We were disappointed with our bench against England and we are looking for better impact this weekend."

In the end, debates over the relative merits of individuals were rendered academic in the post-match gloom of the team's collective failure to match more enterprising, livewire opponents, who though seemingly out-powered, had made the most of their opportunities – while the error-prone men in red were spurning theirs with profligate dropped passes, lost

possession, and turnovers all adding to growing Welsh frustration.

The Scots gratefully took advantage, with man-of-the-match, Finn Russell, comfortably pulling the strings at outside half and punishing indiscretions with the boot, including three first half penalties.

In fact, Wales were still well in the hunt at half time, changing over with a 13-9 lead, thanks to a well-worked corner try by wing Liam Williams, converted by Leigh Halfpenny, who also landed two penalties, though crucially missing a third.

They were not to score again as everything fell apart in a dismal second half that clearly belonged to Scotland (though two Welsh touchdowns were ruled out).

In the end, two brilliantly executed crossfield tries by Tommy Seymour and Tim Visser, both converted by Russell, set the seal on a comprehensive Scottish victory. The fly half added a penalty minutes from time that deservedly keeps them in the hunt for a prized Triple Crown.

*For the Welsh camp, it is now "all about pride" as they prepare to host Ireland in the penultimate match on March 10: "Our championship is over. It was disappointing and frustrating... the performance was just not good enough", said a grim-faced Howley.*

*He and his under-fire fellow coaches know that a repeat of Saturday's second half display at the Principality Stadium could well prove to be the straw that broke the camel's back.*



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